

**FILE DESCRIPTION**

**BUREAU FILE**

**SUBJECT** ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY

**FILE NO.** 134-435

**SECTION NO.** 4

**SERIALS** 134

THRU

198

## **NOTICE**

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File No: 134-435Re: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEYDate: 2/78  
(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
134	3/4/55	LETTER HQ TO AAG	2	2	
135	2/24/55	LETTER NICHOLS TO TOLSON	1	1	
NR	3/2/55	LETTER - Hoover let. to AAG	2	2	
NR	3/3/55	LETTER - HQ TO AAG	2	2	
NR	3/8/55	TELETYPE - HQ TO NY	1	1	
NR	3/2/55	TELETYPE - NY TO HQ	2	2	
NR	3/8/55	LETTER - HQ TO AAG	1	1	
NR ✓	3/8/55	LETTER BELMONT TO BOARDMAN	2 ✓	2	
NR	3/9/55	REPORT - NY TO HQ	16	16	
NR	3/10/55	LETTER - BRANIGAN TO BELMONT	1	1	
136	3/11/55	LETTER - HQ TO NO	1	1	
NR	3/15/55	LETTER HQ TO NY	3	3	

File No: 134-435Re: ELIZABETH T. BentleyDate: 2/78  
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Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
NR	3/21/55	AIRTEL-HQ TO NY	1	1	
137	3/21/55	LETTER-HQ TO NO	1	1	
NR	3/22/55	INTERNAL MEMO	1	1	
NR	5/17/55	LETTER-AAG TO HQ	2	0	REFERRED
138	4/1/55	LETTER-DENVER TO HQ	2	2	
NR	4/11/55	LETTER BELMONT TO BOARDMAN	6	6	
NR	4/21/55	LETTER BELMONT TO BOARDMAN	2	2	
NR	4/21/55	LETTER " " "	8	8	
NR	4/22/55	MEMO-HQ TO TOLSON	1	1	
NR	4/22/55	LETTER-BRANIGAN TO BELMONT	1	1	
NR	4/25/55	LETTER BELMONT TO BOARDMAN	2	2	
139	5/6/55	LETTER-N.O. TO HQ	1	1	



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NR	5/4/55	LETTER NICHOLS TO TOLSON	1	1	
NR	5/12/55	GOV'T. AGENCY DOCUMENT FROM ANOTHER	4	0	REFERRED
140 int	5/20/55	TO TOLSON INTERAAM MEMO NICHOLS	1	1	
140 out	5/24/55	LETTER HQ TO AG	1	1	
141	5/26/55	LETTER NO TO HQ	1	1	
142	5/26/55	LETTER HQ TO NH.	3	0	REFERRED
143	5/25/55	LETTER-MOHR TO DIR.	1	1	
144	6/1/55	LETTER HQ TO WFO	2	2	
145	6/3/55	LETTER NO TO HQ	1	1	
NR	6/3/55	LETTER HQ TO ALBANY	3	3	
146	6/4/55	TOLSON LETTER HQ NICHOLS TO	1	1	
147	5/25/55	LETTER-NO TO HQ	2	2	

File No: \_\_\_\_\_

Re: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(month/year)

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			Actual	Released	
148	6/9/55	LETTER HQ TO AG	1	1	
149	6/10/55	TELETYPE NY TO HQ W/COPY	2	2	1 dup
150	6/8/55	LETTER NICHOLS TO TOLSON	1	1	
151	6/8/55	LETTER BELMONT TO BOARDMAN	2	2	
152	6/11/55	AIRTEL - N.O. TO HQ	1	1	
153	6/6/55	LETTER BELMONT TO BOARDMAN	7	7	
NR	6/9/55	LETTER HQ TO AAG	5	5	
154	6/9/55	LETTER NICHOLS TO TOLSON	2	2	
155	6/14/55	LETTER NICHOLS TO TOLSON	1	1	
NR	6/22/55	LETTER HQ TO AAG	1	1	
156	6/24/55	LETTER BELMONT TO BOARD- MAN	2	2	
157	6/23/55	LETTER NH TO HQ - W/COPY	6	6	3 dup

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			Actual	Released	
157	6/24/55	LETTER BELMONT TO BOARDMAN	2	2	
157	6/27/55	LETTER-HQ TO AG	2	2	
158	6/24/55	LETTER WFO TO HQ	2	2	
158	6/28/55	LETTER HQ TO WFO	1	1	
159	6/27/55	TELETYPE-NH TO HQ W/COPY	2	2	1 dup
159	6/28/55	LETTER-HQ TO AG	1	1	
160	7/6/55	LETTER-WFO TO HQ	1	1	
161	7/27/55	LETTER-NICHOLS TO TOLSON	2	2	
162	7/2/55	TELETYPE-N.H. TO HQ W/COPY	2	2	1 dup
162	7/6/55	LETTER-HQ TO AG	2	2	
163	6/24/55	LETTER-N.H. TO HQ	4	4	
163 out	7/5/55	LETTER-HQ TO NH	1	1	

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			Actual	Released	
<u>164</u>	<u>7/5/55</u>	<u>LETTER - NICHOLS TO TOLSON</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	
<u>165</u>	<u>7/5/55</u>	<u>LETTER - NICHOLS TO TOLSON</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	
<u>166</u>	<u>6/29/55</u>	<u>LETTER - NICHOLS TO TOLSON</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	
<u>167</u>	<u>7/14/55</u>	<u>LETTER - HQ TO AG</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	
<u>168</u>	<u>7/9/55</u>	<u>LETTER - NH TO HQ</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	
<u>168</u>	<u>7/14/55</u>	<u>LETTER - HQ TO NH</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	
<u>169</u>	<u>6/27/55</u>	<u>LETTER - NH TO HQ</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	
<u>170</u>	<u>6/28/55</u>	<u>LETTER - BELMONT TO BOARD-<sup>MAN</sup></u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	
<u>171</u>	<u>7/5/55</u>	<u>W/ ENCL. LETTER FM THIRD PARTY</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>Bottom part of let. not legible</u>
<u>171</u>	<u>7/18/55</u>	<u>LETTER HQ TO 3RD. PARTY</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	
<u>NR</u>	<u>7/13/55</u>	<u>LETTER NH TO HQ</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	
<u>NR</u>	<u>7/19/55</u>	<u>LETTER - HQ TO GOV'T AGENCY</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>REFERRED</u>

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Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
172	7/15/55	LETTER-NICHOLS TO TOLSON	1	1	
NR	7/26/55	LETTER-MARTIN TO BELMONT	1	1	
173	7/28/55	LETTER-NY TO HQ	3	3	
174	7/28/55	LETTER-L.A. TO HQ	2	2	
175	8/5/55	LETTER-BELMONT TO BOARDMAN	2	2	
176	8/4/55	w/COPY TELETYPE-N.H. TO HQ	4	4	2 dup
176	8/8/55	w/COPY showing date 8/4/55 TELETYPE-HQ TO NH	2	2	1 dup
177	7/30/55	LETTER-N.H. TO HQ	2	2	
178	8/8/55	LETTER-NICHOLS TO TOLSON	1	1	
179	8/10/55	w/COPY TELETYPE-N.H. TO HQ	4	4	2 dup
179	8/11/55	LETTER-HQ TO AG	2	2	
NR	8/1/55	FORM FD-192 (Bulky Exhibit)	1	1	

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			Actual	Released	
NR	8/11/55	TELETYPE - NY TO HQ	1	1	
NR	8/11/55	" N.H. TO HQ & NY	1	1	
NR	8/12/55	" N.H. TO HQ	1	1	
NR	8/12/55	" N.H. TO HQ	1	1	
NR	8/11/55	LETTER FROM 3RD PARTY	2	2	
NR	8/12/55	LETTER BELMONT TO BOARDMAN	3	3	
NR	8/4/55	LETTER - HQ TO AG	1	1	
NR	8/4/55	LETTER - HQ TO 3RD PARTY	1	1	
180	8/13/55	LETTER - NICHOLS TO TOLSON	1	1	
181	8/11/55	LETTER - BRANIGAN TO BELMONT	2	2	
NR	8/17/55	TELETYPE - NH TO HQ	2	2	
182	8/20/55	LETTER NICHOLS TO TOLSON	2	2	

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(month/year)

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			Actual	Released	
183	8/25/55	LETTER-HQ TO AG	2	2	
184	8/19/55	AIRTEL-NH TO HQ-W/COPY	2	2	1 dup
185	9/6/55	LETTER NH TO HQ	1	1	
186	9/1/55	LETTER-NICHOLS TO TOLSON	2	2	
187	9/2/55	RADIOGRAM FM NH	1	1	
188	9/3/55	LETTER-NICHOLS TO TOLSON	1	1	
189	9/6/55	AIRTEL-N.H. TO HQ	1	1	
190	9/2/55	LETTER-NICHOLS TO TOLSON	1	1	
191	9/8/55	LETTER-NICHOLS TO TOLSON	1	1	
192	9/12/55	MEMO-JEH TO TOLSON DER	1	1	
193	9/12/55	LETTER-NICHOLS TO TOLSON	1	1	
194	9/20/55	LETTER-3RD PARTY TO JEH	2	2	

File No: 134-435Re: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY

REVIEWED BY

Date: 2/78  
(month year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
195	9/22/55	LETTER NICHOLS TO TOLSON	1	1	
195	9/27/55	LETTER HQ TO AG	3	3	
196	9/27/55	LETTER JEH TO 3rd PARTY	1	1	
197	9/26/55	LETTER BELMONT TO BOARD <sup>MAN</sup>	2	2	
NR	10/11/55	LETTER NICHOLS TO TOLSON	1	1	Very poor original
198	10/12/55	AIRTEL - HQ TO N.O.	1	1	



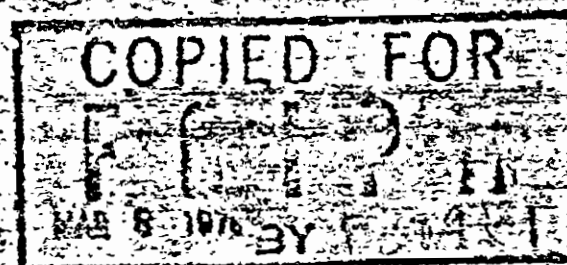
U. S. Department of Justice

(MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE)

FEDERAL BUREAU

of

INVESTIGATION



USE CARE IN HANDLING THIS FILE

Transfer-Call 421

134-193

SECTION 4  
SERIALS 134-193

## Office Memorandum

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO :

Mr. Tolson

DATE: 2/24/55

FROM :

L. B. Nichols

SUBJECT:

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

By reference from the Director's Office at 7:21 p. m., tonight, Miss Elizabeth Bentley advised Mr. McGuire that she was calling from Louisiana and in view of the accusations made against her by Matusow that she felt that the heavy artillery was now being trained on her and that she frankly needed help.

She stated that she was accused by Matusow of having dinner with him on 10/3/52, and that for the life of her she could not recall where she was on that date and wondered if we could be of some assistance in advising her of any matter recorded in the Bureau which might establish her whereabouts on that date. She insisted on wanting to talk to me or to the Director personally. She called my home and found that I was not in. She pressed to find out where the Director was at the moment so that she could talk to him personally.

She was assured that her request would be passed on to the Director and to me by Mr. McGuire as soon as possible and if there was anything which we could do or be of assistance we would be glad to let her know. No promises were made to her that we would make a check as to her whereabouts on 10/3/52, but merely that her request for this information would be passed on to the Director.

It is recommended that in the event this information is readily available in the Domestic Intelligence Division consideration be given as to whether we should inform Miss Bentley of any record that we have which would indicate her whereabouts on that date.

cc - Mr. Holloman  
 Mr. Boardman  
 Mr. Belmont

JJM:fc  
 (5)

RECORDED - 14

EX-125

134-435-135

MAR 9 1955

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-37129

INSPECTOR HENNRICH IS 5-9P2  
 CALLING SAC NEW ORLEANS  
 TONIGHT TO INTERVIEW HER  
 FOR ANY FURTHER SPECIFICS

66 MAR 14 1955

mng

CONFIDENTIAL

Tickle

1-Mr. Boardman  
1-Mr. Belmont

Assistant Attorney General (origl & 1)  
William F. Tompkins

March 4, 1955  
1 - Mr. Gough  
1 - Mr. Lamphere

Director, FBI

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY (134-435)  
SECURITY INFORMANT

DECLASSIFIED BY 6428  
ON 2/24/78

In my memorandum of March 1, 1955, captioned "Unknown Subjects; Harvey Matusow, Subornation of Perjury; Perjury; Obstruction of Justice," which was in answer to your memorandum of February 28, 1955, I set forth data concerning Elizabeth T. Bentley and facts which might have a bearing on your decision to use her as a witness in the Clinton E. Jencks case at El Paso. The following information is being furnished to you for your additional consideration:

During contacts with our agents in 1952, Elizabeth T. Bentley on occasions was depressed and emotionally upset. In September, 1952, in a meeting with two agents, she cried and claimed she was being mistreated by the State of Connecticut. She later became argumentative and demanding of the agents, claiming her financial and other problems should be taken care of by the FBI. During 1952 it appeared she was drinking heavily.

In addition to the foregoing, Miss Bentley advised on May 7, 1952, that she had been beaten by her handy man, John Burghardt Wright, on April 30, 1952, while in her automobile between New Haven and Madison, Connecticut. The fact that she had been beaten was substantiated by her New York doctor who had examined her. Thereafter, Mr. Myles Lane, then United States Attorney in the Southern District of New York, issued a grand jury subpoena for the appearance of Wright and warned him of the possible results of interfering with a Government witness. Wright claimed Bentley had been drunk and hit him with her gloves, whereupon he struck her.

You might also desire to review my memorandum to Mr. Olney, dated April 19, 1954, and my memorandum to the Attorney General, dated May 13, 1954, both captioned "Elizabeth T. Bentley, Security Matter." These two memoranda

deal with Bentley's unwillingness to respond to a subpoena in the Western District of Louisiana in connection with the Exult

Tolson  
Boardman  
Nichols  
Belmont  
Harbo  
Mohr  
Parsons  
Rosen  
Tamm  
Trotter  
Winecoff  
Tele. Room  
Holloman  
Gandy

RJL:en

(8)

1 - 100-375988 (Matusow)

RECORDED - 30 134-435-124

MAR 8 1955

COMM - FBI

MAR 7 1955

MAILED 24

66 MAR 14 1955

UNRECORDED 100

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

suit which was filed by William Henry Taylor against the "Washington Daily News." He noted in the memorandum to the Attorney General that Bentley, while in contact with our New Orleans office, made allegations that she felt the libel suit was a Communist plot against her. She demanded that she be given protection by the Department of Justice and the FBI and made allegations to the effect that "the Long political machine of Louisiana" was intimidating and threatening her. She could provide no specific instances of intimidation or threats against her personal safety.

While the above are facts which I feel you should have, at the same time we have found no information from Bentley to be false and in a number of instances we have been able to substantiate data she furnished through reliable independent sources. It has been our experience that for the most part Miss Bentley has an excellent memory for details involving past espionage activities in which she and others were involved.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



Tickler Mr. Boardman, Belmont

Assistant Attorney General (orig. & 1)  
William F. Tompkins

March 2, 1955

DECLASSIFIED BY 6428

Director, FBI

ON 2/24/78

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; HARVEY MATUSOW (100-375988)  
SUBORNATION OF PERJURY; PERJURY;  
OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S)  
DATE 12/20/78 BY SP-1

Reference is made to my memoranda to the Attorney General, dated February 24 and February 25, 1955, a copy of each of which was made available to you. Reference is also made to your memorandum of February 28, 1955, in which you indicated that Elizabeth Bentley would be a possible valuable witness in the Clinton E. Jencks case at El Paso.

You will recall that according to newspaper accounts Harvey Matusow on February 21 and February 22, 1955, testified before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee and made allegations that Bentley had given false testimony. He indicated he learned this at a dinner with her on his birthday on October 3, 1952. He said this dinner took place in a New York City restaurant and he recalled that a former roommate, Llewellyn Watts, had been present during part of his discussion with Bentley. He said that during the dinner Bentley cried and told him she had to find information about which to testify in order to live.

As we previously informed you, Bentley does not recall this dinner. Llewellyn Watts was interviewed on March 1, 1955. He recalls that one day during the Fall of 1952, Matusow told him he had met Elizabeth Bentley and had a date for that evening with her for cocktails and dinner. Watts states he does not know the exact date of this dinner, but in the evening Matusow and Bentley met at the Rochambeau Restaurant, 78 West 11th Street, New York City. Watts recalls Bentley and Matusow arrived at the restaurant at approximately 9:00 p.m. and stayed in the restaurant for approximately one to two hours. He does not recall that they had dinner at the restaurant. He states the restaurant has two entrances and Matusow and Bentley entered through the bar and took a small

table in the bar section of the restaurant. Watts states that directly after Matusow and Bentley entered, Matusow beckoned for Watts to join them, which he did. He states he had an acquaintance with him but he cannot recall her name.

Watts

(8)

CGA 134-435 (Bentley) CONFIDENTIAL

51 MAR 14 1955

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-375988-4137

134-435  
NOT RECORDED  
16 MAR 8 1955

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Watts remained at the table with Matusow and Bentley for the rest of the time they were in the restaurant. Watts states that at no time during the evening did Miss Bentley show any evidence of tears or depression. There was no discussion of false testimony by Bentley which Watts recalls. He does recall that he and Miss Bentley had a discussion about the uncommon names of midwest towns. He recalls that Miss Bentley was either working in or had come from the Midwest. He recalls one town in particular which they discussed was Diagonal, Iowa. Watts recalls the only person who came to the table during the evening was a friend of his, Earl Henry, who was also acquainted with Matusow. Watts states he does not recall all the conversation which took place during the evening, but he does remember he and Henry attempted to get Miss Bentley to discuss her Communist Party activities; however, they had a difficult time because Matusow was continuously interrupting to tell about his Party activities. Watts states Bentley impressed him as a charming woman with a good sense of humor. U

It is our intention to reinterview Elizabeth Bentley to determine whether, on the basis of the foregoing facts, she can recall the dinner in question. We are also endeavoring to locate and interview Earl Henry concerning his knowledge of this matter. U

100-375988

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL

TH

Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Cough  
March 3, 1955

Assistant Attorney General (orig. & 1)  
William F. Tompkins

DECLASSIFIED BY

6428

Director, FBI

ON

2/24/78

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; HARVEY MATUSOW (100-375988)  
SUBORNATION OF PERJURY; PERJURY;  
OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE

In my memorandum to you, dated March 2, 1955, I furnished data on the results of an interview with Llewellyn Watts who was present at the Rochambeau Restaurant in New York City with Bentley and Matusow on a date during the fall of 1952. Watts was accompanied by a girl friend whose name he said he could not recall.

On February 28, 1955, we interviewed Doris Hibbard, who is temporarily residing at 1515 Eleuado Street, Los Angeles, California. She states she was with Llewellyn Watts at the Rochambeau Restaurant during the fall of 1952, the exact date she does not recall. She and Watts stopped at a table occupied by Matusow, who was introduced to her by Watts and, in turn, Matusow introduced them to Elizabeth Bentley. After being introduced, Matusow immediately started to criticize Abe Burrows as a Communist. Matusow also said Artie Sham would be one of the next individuals named as a Communist. He also mentioned other individuals in show business as being tinged by Communism and during this discussion, Elizabeth Bentley would nod her head in agreement and make statements about Communism and individuals, although Doris Hibbard does not recall the exact remarks. Nothing was said during the conversation about either Matusow or Bentley having been a Communist, an informant for the Government, or a Government witness. Doris Hibbard said this was the only time she had seen Elizabeth Bentley.

Doris Hibbard also indicated she went out with Llewellyn Watts a few times subsequent to the afore-mentioned meeting. Later, she became better acquainted with Matusow and on one occasion they had a date and went to the Stork Club where Matusow said he was to meet a senator. However, the latter did not appear. At the Stork Club, Matusow went to the

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Winters \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

RJL:em

cc: 134-435 (Bentley) ✓

CONFIDENTIAL

YELLOW  
DUPLICATE  
MAR 4 1955

134-435 ✓  
NOT RECORDED  
44 MAR 9 1955

66 MAR 14 1955

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

table of Faye Emerson and her husband and talked to Faye Emerson. Doris Hibbard does not know whether Matusow actually was acquainted with Faye Emerson or whether she was merely putting up with him. After Matusow divorced his wife sometime in the Summer of 1954, Doris Hibbard had a date with him and went to the Peacock Restaurant in New York City. At this time Matusow spoke about writing a book which he said was to be a complete expose of Senator Joseph McCarthy. Matusow asked her to lend him money until this book was published, but Doris Hibbard refused. Thereafter, she talked to Matusow only about three times on the telephone until about January 7 or 8, 1955, when she went with him to a bar in Greenwich Village. He was still talking of publishing his book. During her association with Matusow he told her he became a Communist in the Army and continued until, as in a revelation, he realized he was harming his country. Hibbard claimed there was no romantic attachment between her and Matusow. She believed he associated with her because she was a good listener. She described him as unstable mentally, an egomaniac, and an intense individual who demands everyone's attention. She recalled on one occasion he told her of a perfect murder plan that he had conceived. His plan was to go from New York City to a particular restaurant which Senator McCarthy frequents and there shoot McCarthy. He thereafter intended to return to New York City and hide out. She said the foregoing was cited as an example of his type of mentality. U

Mr. and Mrs. James Shean, Great Neck, New Jersey, on March 1, 1955, advised that Matusow had contacted Mrs. Shean in New York City for a date one week prior to Matusow's birthday on October 3, 1952. Matusow wanted Mrs. Shean to have dinner and "do the town." Between 5:30 and 6:30 p.m. on October 3, 1952, Matusow called again and was told by Mrs. Shean that the date was off. The telephone conversation lasted approximately one-half hour. On the following day, October 4, 1952, Mr. and Mrs. Shean drove Matusow to the Idlewild Airport to catch the 2:00 p.m. flight for Appleton, Wisconsin, where Matusow was to stay with a friend of Senator McCarthy. The Sheans believed this person's name was Van Susteren (phonetic). The purpose of Matusow's trip was to avoid a subpoena from the attorney for Elizabeth Gurley Flynn. Matusow made no mention of what he had done on the previous evening. U

Mr. and Mrs. Shean expressed a desire to avoid any publicity as an outcome of their association with Matusow and Mr. Shean feels that if his association with Matusow became known, it might affect his ability to secure work.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



MARCH 8, 1955

aphere

URGENT

SAC'S NEW YORK  
NEW ORLEANS

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; HARVEY MATSON, SUBORNEATION OF PERJURY;  
PERJURY; OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE. NY SHOULD IMMEDIATELY  
OBTAIN AND FORWARD AIRMAIL TO NEW ORLEANS PHOTOGRAPHS OF  
EXTERIOR OF ROCHANBEAU RESTAURANT AND INTERIOR OF BAR  
SECTION. ALSO OBTAIN AND FORWARD PHOTOGRAPHS OF LLEVELLYN  
WATTS, DORIS HIBBARD AND EARL HENRY. THESE PHOTOGRAPHS SHOULD  
BE EXHIBITED TO BENTLEY TO DETERMINE IF SHE CAN RECALL  
RESTAURANT AND THESE PERSONS.

*Elizabeth Bentley*

HOOVER

RJL:em

100-975988

CC: 134-435 (Bentley)

(7)

A cover memorandum from Mr. Belmont to Mr. Boardman was  
prepared on 3-8-55 by RJL:em in connection with this outgoing.

134-435- ✓  
NOT RECORDED  
192 MAR 14 1955

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

DUPLICATE YELLOW OF  
WIRE TRANSMITTED

MAR 15 1955

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 100-325988-1281

MAR 2 1955

TELETYPE

Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Sizoo  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

WASH 15 FROM NEW YORK 2 8-58 P

DIRECTOR URGENT

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

UNSUBS, HARVEY MATUSOW, SUBORNATION OF PERJURY, PERJURY OJ, EARL HENRY, FIFTY SIX W. ELEVENTH ST., NYC, INTERVIEWED THIS DATE. HENRY STATES THAT HE MET MATUSOW IN SPRING OF NINETEEN FIFTY TWO AT A POLITICAL RALLY IN NYC. HENRY STATED HE SAW MATUSOW OFF AND ON AFTER THAT TIME BUT ONLY IN A SOCIAL WAY. HE STATED THAT HE HAD NO INFORMATION CONCERNING THE BOOK, QUOTE FALSE WITNESS END OF QUOTE AND THAT MATUSOW HAD NVVER INDICATED TO HIM THAT HE HAD EVER TESTIFIED FALSELY. HENRY STATED THAT HE RECALLS SEEING MATUSOW AND AN INDIVIDUAL INTRODUCED TO HIM AS ELIZABETH BENTLEY IN THE ROCHAMBEAU RESTAURANT ON ONE OCCASION. HE STATED HE COULD NOT FIX THE DATE, OTHER THAN IT WAS SOME TIME AFTER HE HAD ORIGINALLY MET MATUSOW. HE STATED THAT HE RECALLS THAT ON THIS OCCASION HE WENT TO THE ROCHAMBEAU AT APPROXIMATELY NINE TO NINE THIRTY PM AND UPON ENTERING OBSERVED MATUSOW, LOU WATTS AND AN UNIDENTIFIED WOMAN SEATED AT A TABLE IN THE BAR SECTION OF THE RESTAURANT.

END PAGE ONE

134-435-  
NOT RECORDED  
176 MAR 11 1955

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-375988-131

PAGE TWO

HENRY STATED THAT HE RECALLS ONLY THREE PEOPLE WERE AT THE TABLE. HE STATED HE WAS INVITED BY EITHER MATUSOW OR WATTS TO JOIN THEM AND HE DID SO. HE RECALLS THAT MATUSOW INTRODUCED HIM TO THE LADY AND GAVE A FICTITIOUS NAME, WHICH HE DOES NOT NOW RECALL. HE STATED THAT MATUSOW, AFTER GIVING THIS FICTITIOUS NAME, ALMOST IMMEDIATELY STATED THAT THE WOMEN WAS ELIZABETH BENTLEY. HENRY STATED THAT MATUSOW APPEARED TO TAKE PLEASURE IN PLAYING THIS JOKE OF INTRODUCING MISS BENTLEY BY A FICTITIOUS NAME. HENRY STATED HE HAS NO REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THIS INDIVIDUAL WAS NOT ELIZABETH BENTLEY. HENRY STATED THAT HE REMAINED AT THE TABLE FOR APPROXIMATELY FIFTEEN MINUTES TO ONE HALF HOUR, AFTER WHICH HE LEFT THE BAR. HE STATED THAT HE DOES NOT RECALL THAT MISS BENTLEY WAS IN TEARS OR APPEARED TO BE DEPRESSED. HE RECALLS THAT SHE DID NOT HAVE A CHANCE TO SAY VERY MUCH BECAUSE MATUSOW WAS MONOPOLIZING THE CONVERSATION. HENRY STATED THAT HE RECALLS SEEING MATUSOW ON AN UNKNOWN DATE IN NINETEEN FIFTY FOUR, AT WHICH TIME MATUSOW STATED THAT HE WAS THROUGH WITH COMMUNISM, MC CARTHY AND THE JENNER COMMITTEE, ETC. HENRY STATED THAT MATUSOW DID NOT GIVE ANY REASON FOR THIS ACTION. FURNISHED TO NEW ORLEANS FOR INFO.

RECEIVED

ORIGINAL-DIRECTOR

NEW ORLEANS ADVISED

KELLY

Mr. Gough  
Mr. Lamphere

Assistant Attorney General (Orig. & 1)  
William F. Tompkins

March 8, 1955

Director, FBI

134-435-✓

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; HARVEY MATUSOW  
SUBORNATION OF PERJURY; PERJURY;  
OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE

In my memoranda to you of March 2 and March 3, 1955, I set forth data developed from interviews of Llewellyn Watts and Doris Hibbard who were present at the Rochambeau Restaurant, New York City, during the Fall of 1952 when Matusow and Elizabeth T. Bentley were there.

We also have interviewed Earl Henry, an acquaintance of Matusow, who recalls that on one occasion during the Fall of 1952 he went to the Rochambeau Restaurant at approximately 9:00 to 9:30 p.m. He saw there Matusow, Llewellyn Watts and an unidentified woman sitting at a table in the bar section of the restaurant. He was invited to join the group. Matusow introduced Henry to the lady and gave a fictitious name which Henry does not now recall. After giving this name, Matusow almost immediately stated the woman was Elizabeth Bentley. Henry states that Matusow appeared to take pleasure in playing this joke of introducing Miss Bentley by a fictitious name. Henry states he remained at the table for approximately fifteen minutes to one-half hour, after which he left the bar. He does not recall that Miss Bentley was in tears or appeared to be depressed. He recalls she did not have a chance to say very much because Matusow was monopolizing the conversation.

The foregoing is for your information and additional developments in this matter will be made available to you.

100-375988

1 - 134-435 (Bentley)  
EJL:cm  
(8)

DECLASSIFIED BY 6428  
ON 2/24/78

YELLOW  
DUPLICATE  
MAR 9 1955  
MAILED

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY SLIP(S) OF  
DATE 2/28/78

CONFIDENTIAL

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Boardman \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Parsons \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

71 MAR 18 1955

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-375988-1343

L. V. Boardman

March 8, 1953

A. H. Belmont

3723

**UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; HARVEY MATUSOW;  
SUBORNATION OF PERJURY; PERJURY;  
OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE**

We have been conducting extensive investigation to determine the circumstances surrounding a meeting between Bentley and Matusow at a restaurant in New York City on 10/3/52. Matusow claims that Bentley on that occasion of this meeting cried and told him she was broke, out of work, needed a job, had to testify to live, and needed to find information from which to testify. Bentley has denied this allegation and is unable to recall the dinner in question. She does remember a luncheon with Matusow at which Dr. Ruth Matthews was present. Dr. Matthews also recalls the luncheon and states Bentley did not say the things Matusow alleges.

We have located three persons who saw Bentley with Matusow at the Rochambeau Restaurant in NYC during the Fall of 1952. One of these is Llewellyn Watts who Matusow said was present at the dinner he is speaking about. All three persons interviewed dispute the allegations made by Matusow. Bentley has been reinterviewed concerning the matter and still cannot remember the dinner.

The Director previously instructed that we should exercise care in talking to Bentley concerning this matter in order to avoid any subsequent charges which might be made that we coached her in giving her information. It is believed advisable, however, to show Bentley photographs of the Rochambeau Restaurant and photographs of the persons besides Matusow who were present in the restaurant during the meeting between Matusow and Bentley.

Attachment

0 ELIZABETH  
CC; 1 - 134-435 (Bentley)  
1-Mr. Boardman  
1-Mr. Belmont  
1-Mr. Branigan  
1-Mr. Cough  
1-Mr. Lanphere

134-435-  
NOT RECORDED  
133 MAR 9 1953

ELIEN  
(9)

50 MAR 11 1953

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-375-988-1152



**ACTION:**

There is attached a teletype to the New York and New Orleans offices instructing NY to obtain the desired photographs and to send them to New Orleans in order that they may be exhibited to Bentley. It is noted we have previously instructed both the NY and New Orleans offices in connection with the Director's comments set forth above.

37237

# CONFIDENTIAL FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FORM NO. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEW YORK

FD-78  
(6-10-52)

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW YORK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>MAR 9 1955</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>2/28-3/3/55</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>JAMES M. BROWNE srs/rsi</b>
TITLE <b>UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; HARVEY MARSHALL MATUSOW, was: Harvey Marshall, Harvey Matson</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SUBORNATION OF PERJURY; PERJURY, OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY'S registration cards at Prince George Hotel, New York City, reflecting schedule of her arrivals and departures for year 1952, set out herein. Records indicate BENTLEY was registered at hotel from 9/30/52 until 10/6/52 and again from 12/3/52 until 12/5/52. Dr. J.B. MATTHEWS and wife, RUTH, interviewed and advised MATUSOW and BENTLEY attended luncheon with Mrs. MATTHEWS on 12/4/52 with no one else present. They also advised that BENTLEY and MATUSOW attended a buffet dinner given by them on 11/16/52 with other prominent guests in NYC with no unusual circumstances. LLEWELYN WATTS interviewed and advised that he saw BENTLEY and MATUSOW at the Rochambeau Restaurant located on E. 11th Street and 6th Avenue in NYC during evening some time around October of 1952. He recalls BENTLEY and MATUSOW arrived approximately 9 P.M. and remained one to two hours. EARL HENRY interviewed and recalls seeing MATUSOW and another individual identified to him as ELIZABETH BENTLEY in Rochambeau Restaurant on one occasion in the evening but could not recall the date, advising it was some time after he had met MATUSOW which was in the Spring of 1952. DORIS HIBBARD interviewed and advises she observed BENTLEY and MATUSOW in Rochambeau Restaurant in the evening in the latter part of 1952.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES

AND FIELD OFFICES

ADVISED BY ROUTING

SLIP(S) OF *declassification*

DATE 2/28/78 *ENR/zt*

DECLASSIFIED BY 6428

ON 2/24/78

APPROVED AND FORWARDED	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 8- Bureau (100-375988) (RMSD) 5- USA, SDNY (RM) 3- Dallas (INFO) (RM) COPIES CONTINUED NEXT PAGE 11- New York (100-94014) (1-NY)		131-455-✓  NOT RECORDED 100MAR 16 1955	INITIALS ON ORIGINAL [Signature]
		100-98062-1 (ELIZABETH BENTLEY)	

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**86 MAR 17 1955**

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-58227-8

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ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 100-375988-11

NY 100-94014

DETAILS:

Information Re New York Residences  
of ELIZABETH BENTLEY for the year 1952

On February 25, 1955 the registration cards of the Prince George Hotel located at 28th Street and Madison Avenue New York City, were examined by SA JOHN B. MEADE and it was ascertained that there were two old registration cards for ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY. The first card bearing number 23263 signed by ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY of Madison, Connecticut, indicated this individual arrived at the hotel on March 6, 1952 at 6 P.M. and departed March 8, 1952, at 4:58 P.M. During this period she occupied room 913. The following schedule of arrivals and departures for Miss BENTLEY was indicated on the back of this card.

<u>Arrived</u>	<u>Departed</u>	<u>Room</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Number of Guests</u>	<u>Clerk</u>	<u>Reservations</u>
3-20	3-21	634	5.50	1	JM	000X
4-13	4-15	1229	5.00	1	A	000X
4-19	4-20	1213	5.00	1	P	
4-28	4-28	1113	5.00	1	P	000X
4-29	4-30	1112	5.00	1	JM	000X
5-1	5-2	1115	5.00	1	P	
5-4	5-14	1109	5.00	1	A	X
5-21	5-23	812	4.75	1	JM	00X
6-12	6-13	1106	5.00	1	A	X
5-29	5-30	1111	5.00	1	A	X
6-4	6-5	909	4.75	1	OJR	00

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- 3 - El Paso (INFO.) (RM)
- 1 - Los Angeles (INFO.) (RM)
- 2 - New Orleans (RM)



NY 100-94014

The second card signed by ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY of Madison, Connecticut under registration number 21474 indicates she arrived at the hotel on July 9, 1952, at 8:41 P.M. and departed the hotel on July 10, 1952, at 12:01 P.M. At this time she occupied Room 1107. The following schedule of arrivals and departures by this person was indicated on the back of card number two:

<u>Arrived</u>	<u>Departed</u>	<u>Room</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Number of Guests</u>	<u>Clerk</u>	<u>Reservations</u>
9-10	9-11	1207	5.00	1	Ly	OOX
9-21	9-27	604	5.00	1	A	
9-30	10-6	409	5.00	1	JM	OO
10-10	10-12	409	5.00	1	LMC	
11-15	11-17	1217	5.00	1	LMC	
12-3	12-5	607	5.00	1	PJR	OOX
12-8	12-9	515	5.00	1	MC	

The registration cards for the year 1953 were examined by SA JOHN B. MEADE, and no cards were located for Miss BENTLEY during the year 1953.

Mr. V. E. RIVES, Executive Assistant Manager of hotel, who furnished the cards, explained that the hotel's accounting system is such that in the case of a regular customer numerous cards are not maintained each time the customer registers; instead, on the back of a certain number of cards, the numerous arrival and departure dates of regular guests are indicated and the individual registration cards are destroyed. It was explained that all of the dates listed on the back of the above two cards pertain to the year 1952.

On March 1, 1955, Mr. RIVES was again contacted by SA JOHN B. MEADE and he advised that the hotel telephone

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records at the Prince George Hotel are maintained for a period of one year only. He further stated that all the records of phone calls made during 1952 would not be available.

Dr. SAMUEL GROOPMAN who is located at 4 East 28th Street, New York City, was contacted on February 25, 1955 by SA LESTER O. GALLAHER, and he advised that his records reflect that he treated ELIZABETH BENTLEY on September 9, 1952 and again on October 7, 1952.

Interview of Dr. RUTH MATTHEWS  
50 Riverside Drive, New York City  
on February 23, 1955

Dr. RUTH E. MATTHEWS was interviewed by SA EDWARD W. BUCKLEY and she advised as follows:

She recalled that on December 4, 1952 she had a luncheon date with ELIZABETH BENTLEY and HARVEY MATUSOW at the Hotel Abbey in New York City. She related that she met both people at the hotel in the lobby and during the luncheon, BENTLEY was somewhat upset and unhappy since she did not have a job and was unsuccessful in obtaining one at that time. BENTLEY mentioned during the luncheon that every time she went after a worthwhile job, she would be called on to testify and as a result, her prospective employer would lose interest in her and she would subsequently lose out on the position.

MATTHEWS advised that BENTLEY did not give any specific names of any prospective employers. Mrs. MATTHEWS stated further that BENTLEY never made any statements nor did she indicate at any time that she was not going to continue cooperating with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and government officials. She advised that BENTLEY never gave any indication that it was the responsibility of the government to obtain positions for her at this luncheon or any other time in Mrs. MATTHEWS' presence. On the contrary, Mrs. MATTHEWS stated that BENTLEY praised the accomplishments of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the manner in which they developed the facts.

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Mrs. MATTHEWS pointed out that BENTLEY did indicate by her upset attitude, and at one time during the luncheon appeared to cry that the constant appearance of her name in the headlines was beginning to get her down. MATTHEWS said that she attempted to relax BENTLEY by making several jokes. While at the luncheon, according to Mrs. MATTHEWS, BENTLEY did make mention of the fact that she was a little upset at ROY COHN, former Assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, and former Counsel to Senator JOSEPH MC CARTHY'S Sub-committee, since he had not followed through in rendering full assistance to her in preparing or setting out her 1951 Income Tax Return which apparently had been improperly prepared by some tax accountant. BENTLEY stated in the presence of Mrs. MATTHEWS and MATUSOW that COHN was easy to contact and get hold of when he was looking for her to be interviewed relative to testimony, and so forth, but when she wanted to get through to him to ask some personal questions, she met with difficulty. BENTLEY also mentioned at the luncheon that she was appreciative of the work given to her by ALFRED KOHLBERG and that she was, at that time, doing some research work for him. MATTHEWS stated that BENTLEY did imply that she was financially strapped since she made reference to the fact that more than once she was anxious to secure a regular employment in order to meet her financial obligations.

Mrs. MATTHEWS pointed out that at the time of the luncheon, and whenever she was in Miss BENTLEY'S company, the latter never implied or indicated that she had given false testimony to the government.

According to Mrs. MATTHEWS, MATUSOW, if he desired to tell the truth, could only relate the above conversation held at the luncheon, December 4, 1952.

Interview of Dr. J. B. MATTHEWS  
and wife, RUTH on February 28, 1955

Dr. J. B. MATTHEWS and his wife, RUTH, were interviewed on February 28, 1955 by SA EDWARD W. BUCKLEY and SA CHESTER A. REILLY, and they advised as follows:



They stated an appointment book had been maintained by Mrs. MATTHEWS and reflected a luncheon date was had with HARVEY MATUSOW and ELIZABETH BENTLEY for Thursday, December 4, 1952 at the Hotel Abbey in New York City. RUTH MATTHEWS exhibited the appointment book to the interviewing agents where the names of BENTLEY and MATUSOW appeared in ink and a notation of six dollars. Mrs. MATTHEWS advised that she paid for the luncheon in the amount of six dollars. Mrs. MATTHEWS advised that during the luncheon, and after the luncheon, nobody visited or stopped by the table and she pointed out that all three departed from the hotel lobby with MATUSOW going one way and BENTLEY and herself going in an opposite direction.

BENTLEY never made any remark or mention or gave any indication according to Mrs. MATTHEWS, regarding her testimony; however, she did remark to MATTHEWS that she, BENTLEY, thought MATUSOW was "quite a character". Mrs. MATTHEWS advised that BENTLEY, during their short walk from the hotel, was in an upset condition and commented in an offhand manner "it just doesn't seem worth the struggle and sometimes, I think I should step out in front of a car and settle everything."

Again, Mrs. MATTHEWS explained that the upset condition of ELIZABETH BENTLEY was apparently based on the fact that she had no regular type employment to meet her financial obligations.

Dr. MATTHEWS and his wife advised that BENTLEY and MATUSOW were also invited to a buffet dinner party at their apartment in the London Terrace, 110 West 21st Street, New York City, on November 16, 1952, both people referred to the appointment book, mentioned previously, which refreshed their memory that the dinner party was on that date.

Dr. MATTHEWS advised that the purpose of this prepared dinner was to introduce a visiting Belgian journalist by the name of A. G. SAMOY, who was touring the United States for some Belgian and Holland papers.

NY 100-94014

Dr. MATTHEWS advised that the guests were given short notices, being invited by phone on the afternoon of November 16, 1952.

According to the MATTHEWS, the following people were in attendance:

Mr. and Mrs. GEORGE SOKOLSKY, Prominent journalist associated with Kings Features Syndicate; Secretary HELEN PATT;

Mr. and Mrs. JOHN HILL of Bell and Knowlton Relations Firm, New York City;

Mr. and Mrs. BEN LEVITES, 410 West 24th Street, New York City; LEO MC CAREY, Hollywood Producer;

BENTLEY and MATUSOW

The MATTHEWS advised that to the best of their knowledge, the above-named people were the only ones in attendance. Both the MATTHEWS advised that practically, all the conversation was ~~centered~~ around the Belgian Journalist, SAMOY, who was asked questions about American Politics.

Dr. MATTHEWS advised that GEORGE SOKOLSKY and himself answered most of the questions of SAMOY. He explained that the people were seated about the room more or less resembling an audience to the political discussion.

Both the MATTHEWS were of the opinion that as a result of their recollection and because of the type of discussion and the way of seating of the people, BENTLEY and MATUSOW had little or no time to hold a quiet conversation of their own. Both MATTHEWS advised it was their opinion that the people mentioned above would not be in a position to furnish any additional details regarding any quiet conversation of MATUSOW and BENTLEY since they were sure none took place while BENTLEY and MATUSOW were visiting in their apartment on that date. The MATTHEWS concluded that this was the only supper party at which both MATUSOW and BENTLEY were in attendance, explaining however, that each had visited their apartment separately on various other occasions.

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Interview of LLEWELYN WATTS on  
March 1, 1955

LLEWELYN WATTS was interviewed by SA THOMAS A. POWERS and he advised as follows:

WATTS stated that he recalls one day in the early fall of 1952, MATUSOW told him that he had met ELIZABETH BENTLEY on that day and had a date that evening with her for cocktails and dinner. WATTS stated that he could not recall the day but believes it was on a Friday and could have possibly been around October 2, 1952. WATTS explained that later that evening MATUSOW and ELIZABETH BENTLEY appeared at the Rochambeau Restaurant which is located on 11th Street and Sixth Avenue, New York City, at approximately nine o'clock P.M. and stayed in the restaurant for approximately one to two hours. WATTS does not recall that BENTLEY or MATUSOW had dinner at the restaurant. He related that the restaurant has two entrances and that MATUSOW and BENTLEY had entered through the bar entrance and had taken a small table in the bar section of the restaurant. WATTS advised that shortly after MATUSOW and BENTLEY entered, MATUSOW beckoned for WATTS to join them, which he did, explaining that he, WATTS, at that time, had a female acquaintance with him, but could not recall her name. WATTS stated that he remained at their table with MATUSOW and BENTLEY for the remainder of the time that they were in the restaurant. He explained that he does not recall that MATUSOW introduced him to Miss BENTLEY, but that he introduced himself to Miss BENTLEY explaining that he recognized her from pictures in the newspapers. He indicated that there is no question in his mind that the individual with MATUSOW on that occasion was ELIZABETH BENTLEY. He advised that at no time during the evening, did Miss BENTLEY manifest any evidence of tears or signs of depression. He stated that there was no discussion whatsoever of false testimony by Miss BENTLEY but does recall that he and Miss BENTLEY had a discussion about the uncommon names of certain Mid-western towns. He explained that he had the impression that Miss BENTLEY was either working in or had come from the Midwest and he recalls that one town in particular, was discussed by them, namely: "Diagonal, Iowa".



NY 100-94014

WATTS volunteered the information that to the best of his knowledge, only one other person came to the table that evening, and he was a friend of WATTS by the name of EARL HENRY, who was also an acquaintance of MATUSOW. WATTS stated that he does not recall all the conversation which took place during the evening, but does remember that he and HENRY attempted to get Miss BENTLEY to discuss her Communist Party activities, but that they had a difficult time, inasmuch as MATUSOW was continually interrupting them to tell them about his own experiences. WATTS concluded by saying that Miss BENTLEY impressed him as a charming woman with a good sense of humor.

Interview of EARL HENRY of 56  
West 11th Street, New York City  
on March 2, 1955.

EARL HENRY was interviewed by SA THOMAS A. POWERS and advised as follows:

He stated that he met HARVEY MATUSOW in the Spring of 1952 at a political rally in New York City, the nature of which he could not recall. He explained that he saw MATUSOW off and on after that time, but only in a social way. He advised that he had no information concerning the book "False Witness" and that MATUSOW had never indicated to him that he had ever testified falsely. HENRY explained that he recalls seeing MATUSOW and an individual introduced to him as ELIZABETH BENTLEY in the Rochambeau Restaurant, located on 11th Street and 6th Avenue in New York City, on one occasion. HENRY was unable to fix the date other than to say it was some time after he had originally met MATUSOW. He pointed out that he recalls on this occasion, visiting the Rochambeau Restaurant at approximately 9:00 P.M. to 9:30 P.M. in the evening and as he entered, he observed MATUSOW, LOU WATTS, heretofore identified as LLEWELYN WATTS, and an unidentified woman all seated at a table in the bar section of the restaurant. HENRY stated that he recalls only three people were at the table. He stated that he was invited by either MATUSOW or WATTS to join them which he did and he recalls that MATUSOW introduced him to a lady and gave a fictitious name, which he does not now recall. He advised that

NY 100-94014

MATUSOW after giving this fictitious name, almost immediately stated that the woman's name was ELIAZABETH BENTLEY. HENRY stated that MATUSOW appeared to take pleasure in playing this joke of introducing Miss BENTLEY by a fictitious name but explained that he had no reason to believe this individual was not ELIZABETH BENTLEY.

HENRY recalled that he remained at the table for approximately fifteen minutes to one half hour after which time he left the bar. He explained that he does not now recall that Miss BENTLEY was in tears or that she appeared to be depressed. He stated that she did not have a chance to say much during the evening because MATUSOW was monopolizing the conversation.

HENRY concluded by advising that he recalls seeing MATUSOW on an unknown date during the year 1954 at which time MATUSOW stated that he was through with Communism, Mc CARTHY and the Jenner Committee, at which time MATUSOW did not give any reason for his action.

Investigation conducted at Los Angeles, California

Interview with DORIS HIBBARD, 2/28/55  
Temporarily residing at 1515  
Elevado Street, Los Angeles

DORIS HIBBARD was interviewed by Special Agents EDMOND F. BRICK and JAMES G. KARIS and advised as follows:

HIBBARD stated that she was introduced to HARVEY MATUSOW through LOU WATTS who was, at the time, MATUSOW'S roommate. HIBBARD could only state that the time of this meeting was some time during the latter part of 1952, the weather she recalls then being very cold. She stated that on the occasion of meeting LOU WATTS, who was a blind date, they visited the Rochambeau Restaurant located at Eleventh Street and Sixth Avenue in New York City, where they subsequently had dinner. According to HIBBARD, WATTS



NY 100-94014

and HIBBARD stopped at MATUSOW'S table, where WATTS introduced HIBBARD to MATUSOW. MATUSOW then introduced ELIZABETH BENTLEY, who was with him at the table. MATUSOW then immediately started to malign ABE BURROWS, prominent Television entertainer as a Communist.

HIBBARD explained that BENTLEY was at the time appearing before the House Committee on Un-American activities and that she knew him through her Television associations. She stated that she liked him and therefore mildly resented MATUSOW'S insinuations about BURROWS. HIBBARD explained that MATUSOW stated that ARTIE SHAW would be one of the next individuals named as a Communist and that he then mentioned other individuals in show business as being tinged by Communism and said that practically everybody in show business was so tinged.

HIBBARD stated that ELIZABETH BENTLEY would nod her head in agreement with MATUSOW and would also make statements about Communism, and at intervals, although HIBBARD could not recall the remarks, it was her understanding from the conversation that BENTLEY was living in Connecticut at that time and was a writer. She explained that she got the impression that BENTLEY made a special trip to New York City to visit MATUSOW. She explained that she did not know if MATUSOW was BENTLEY'S boyfriend, but was given the impression from this meeting that this may have been true. She stated that this meeting was the only time that she had ever seen ELIZABETH BENTLEY, and that during this occasion, nothing was said about either MATUSOW or BENTLEY ever having been Communists, informers or government witnesses. She stated that she went out with LOU WATTS on a few occasions thereafter and on one occasion, was with him in the apartment then occupied by WATTS and MATUSOW, the latter not being present. She stated WATTS then showed her MATUSOW'S newspaper clippings from New York papers relative to his being an informer.

According to HIBBARD, WATTS stated that he was of the opinion that MATUSOW was being paid by Congressional Committees to work for them. HIBBARD related that WATTS, through his

association with MATUSOW, had become a valid anti-Communist and she indicated that he was employed by his father in the butter and egg business in New York City. She stated that after she first became acquainted with MATUSOW, she had several subsequent meetings with him, chiefly arising from his dropping over to the Television studio where she was employed, usually after a studio production had been completed. She stated they would have either coffee or something at a bar and on one occasion, they had a date where they visited the Stork Club because MATUSOW had stated he had an appointment with a senator.

Miss HIBBARD could not recall the name of the senator but does remember that no senator appeared on that occasion.

While at the Stork Club, according to Miss HIBBARD, MATUSOW visited the table of FAY EMERSON and her husband, prominent Television and Movie personality, at which time he began a discussion with FAY EMERSON. She could not determine during the course of his visit with FAY EMERSON, whether or not MATUSOW and EMERSON were actually acquainted or whether FAY EMERSON was merely putting up with him. She does recall that she was of the belief that MATUSOW married Mrs. BENTLEY the former wife of a Michigan Congressman and for about 10 months, lived in Washington, D.C. She was unable to furnish any information as to whether MATUSOW worked in Washington D.C. but believed he was separated from his wife. She stated that MATUSOW, to the best of her knowledge, became divorced and returned to New York City, residing in a duplex apartment on East 79th Street, New York City, which he rented at approximately two hundred dollars a month.

Miss HIBBARD explained that some time in the summer of 1954, she had a date with MATUSOW and went to the Peacock Cafe on 56th Street, Seventh Avenue, New York City, at which time MATUSOW spoke about a book that he was writing which he said was going to be complete exposure of Senator JOSEPH MC CARTHY. MATUSOW said that the publisher, whom he did not identify, was advancing him some money. On this occasion,

NY 100-94014

according to Miss HIBBARD, MATUSOW requested a loan from her until the book was published. She stated that she refused and therefore, only talked to MATUSOW approximately three times on the telephone until approximately January 7, 1955 or January 8, 1955, when she visited a Greenwich Village bar in the company of MATUSOW. She related that during this last meeting, MATUSOW continued to talk about publishing his book. She stated that he had grown a beard and said that he was going to become a Mormon and was thinking of bicycling to Salt Lake City in the summer. She recalls that during her association with MATUSOW, he had told her that he had become a Communist in the Army, and had continued as such until he, as in a revelation, realized he was harming his country. She believes him to be very Anti-Communist, although in many of his beliefs and opinions, he is constantly changing his mind. She stated that as an example, he originally praised Senator MC CARTHY and subsequently violently denied him. She stated that MATUSOW never said how he supported himself, other than saying he wrote television scripts.

Miss HIBBARD stated that MATUSOW, never at any time, told her that he had worked for the Federal Bureau of Investigation or that he was an F.B.I. informer. She said that MATUSOW never told her that he had been a government witness; that he worked for any Congressional Committee; or indicated in any manner how he obtained money for his living expenses. She said that he never talked about ELIZABETH BENTLEY being an informer or witness nor did he ever discuss BENTLEY'S testimony or his relationship with her. She does recall that MATUSOW said at one time that he was campaigning in Wisconsin and Montana, but that he never went into detail.

According to Miss HIBBARD, MATUSOW on one occasion returned from Texas but said nothing about why he was there other than to indicate that he was on a dude ranch and enjoyed outdoor life. She stated there never was any romantic attachment between her and MATUSOW and that she was of the opinion that he associated with her because she was a good listener. She described him as a person who is unstable mentally; an ego maniac; an intense individual who demanded everybody's attention and believes that MATUSOW is glorying in being in the spotlight currently and will make it last as long as possible.



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-94011

Miss HIBBARD could recall no outright act of dishonesty by MATUSOW except in an instance where he wanted her to improperly write a letter for him on the stationery of "What's My Line" program stating that he had been accepted for an appearance on that program. She volunteered the information that she refused to do this and believed he wanted to use the letter to barge his way into an appearance on the program. As a further example of MATUSOW'S mental thinking, HIBBARD explained MATUSOW once told her of an apparent murder plan that he had conceived. She stated the plan was for MATUSOW to go from New York City to a particular restaurant which Senator JOSEPH MC CARTHY frequents and shoot MC CARTHY. Thereafter MATUSOW would return to New York City and hide out. She said she did not have much knowledge of MATUSOW'S associations outside of knowing LOU WATTS.

Miss HIBBARD furnished no other information.

- P -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

- 14 -

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

MISCELLANEOUS

The Bureau's attention is directed to New York letters to the Bureau, 9/4/52 and 9/26/52 captioned "GREGORY; ESPIONAGE - R" which sets forth contacts and circumstances relating to the nervous and confused state of mind of ELIZABETH BENTLEY during the year 1952 and also to New York letter dated 1/16/53 captioned "ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY; ESPIONAGE - R" advising the Bureau of marked improvement in her mental condition.

LEADS

DALLAS (INFORMATION)

DENVER (INFORMATION)

EL PASO (INFORMATION)

Three copies of this report are being furnished to the Dallas, Denver, and El Paso offices for their information inasmuch as they have a collateral interest in this investigation.

LOS ANGELES (INFORMATION)

One copy of this report is being furnished the Los Angeles Office for their information inasmuch as they have conducted investigation in this specific matter.

NEW ORLEANS

At Grand Coteau, Louisiana

Will reinterview ELIZABETH BENTLEY if not already done at the College of the Sacred Heart for any information concerning the dinner had with MATUSOW at the Rochambeau Restaurant located on 11th Street and 6th Avenue, New York City, some time around the period, October 3, 1952.

NY 100-94014

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (CONT'D)

LEADS (CONT'D)

NEW YORK

At New York, New York

Will continue to follow and report the activities  
of HARVEY MATUSOW.

REFERENCE

Bureau air-tel 2/26/55.



A. H. Belmont

March 10, 1955

F. A. Branigan

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; HARVEY MATSON  
SUBORNATION OF PERJURY; PERJURY;  
OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE

ASAC Don Moore of the NY office called me this afternoon and made reference to the Bureau's teletype of 3/8/55 which instructed the NYO to obtain and forward airmail to the New Orleans office photographs of the exterior of the Eochambeau Restaurant and the interior of the bar section. It also instructed that photographs of Llewellyn Fatts, Doris Hibbard and Earl Henry be obtained. These photographs are to be exhibited to Bentley in order to determine if she can recall the restaurant and these persons who met her with Matson on a date during the Fall of 1952 at the restaurant.

ASAC Moore said there is no problem with respect to obtaining the photographs of the restaurant and Doris Hibbard. He said with respect to obtaining photographs of Fatts and Henry he felt the easiest way of handling the matter would be to contact these persons, who previously have been interviewed, and obtain the photographs from them. I told ASAC Moore that this would be satisfactory.

ACTION: The foregoing is for your information.

CR: 194-495 (Bentley)  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Branigan  
Mr. Cough  
Mr. Lamphere

2/10/55  
(6)

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

NOT RECORDED  
170 MAR 16 1955

154-375986-1546  
ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 100-375986-1546

151 MAR 21 1955

SAC, New Orleans (orig. & 1)

March 11, 1955

Ticklers: Mr. Lamphere

Director, FBI (134-435)

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY  
CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE

37-135

Reurmemo 2/18/55 concerning the above person. You should henceforth carry her as a confidential source rather than as a security informant. The value of Bentley as a potential witness for the Government and as a source of information in security matters is such that you should maintain close contact with her. You should endeavor to keep aware of various problems which she encounters and if she is showing signs of emotional stress, the facts should be brought to the Bureau's attention.

The agent who handles Bentley should, insofar as is possible, have a complete knowledge of the data which Bentley has provided to the Government. He should, for example, have read Bentley's book "Out of Bondage" and if the files of the New Orleans office do not contain sufficient data on the information Bentley has supplied in the Nathan Gregory Silvermaster case, the New York and Washington Field offices should be requested to supply pertinent serials for the information of the New Orleans office. One serial which definitely should be in the possession of the New Orleans office is the signed statement of Bentley, dated 11/30/45. This is contained in the report of SA Thomas G. Spencer, dated 12/5/45 at New York, in the case entitled "Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, was., et al, Espionage - R."

2 - New York (inf.)  
1 - Washington Field (inf.)

RJL:cm

(6)

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134-435-136

COMM-FBI

MAR 11 1955

MAILED 19

EX-122

MAR 14 1955

WAB

MAR 11 1955

FBI

CEAED - BOWLING

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
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Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
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Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
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Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

66 MAR 15 1955

132

John

AB

WAB

RJ



TICKLERS:

Woodman, Belmont

SAC, New York (orig. &amp; 1)

Brannigan, Gough, Lamphere

March 15, 1955

Director, FBI (100-375000)

Elizabeth T. BentleyUNKNOWN SUBJECTS; HARVEY MATUSOW  
SUBORNEATION OF PERJURY; PERJURY;  
OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE

There are attached hereto for each of the offices receiving this memorandum two copies of the testimony of Harvey Matusow before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee, on 2/21 and 2/22/55, relative to his allegations concerning Elizabeth Bentley. The following is a brief summary of the facts developed to date concerning these allegations made by Matusow:

Matusow, in his appearance before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee on 2/22/55 testified that on his birthday, October 3, 1952, he and Bentley met for dinner at the Rochambeau Restaurant in New York City. He testified that Bentley, in effect, told him she had lied. He claimed she was depressed and crying and said she had "to find information to testify about" in order to live. Matusow claimed a number of his friends saw him with Bentley on the evening in question and he identified one as Llewellyn Fatts, a former roommate.

Bentley has been interviewed several times concerning this matter and cannot recall the dinner in question. She does recall attending a luncheon with Matusow and Dr. Ruth Matthews during the Fall of 1952. Bentley does deny ever having told Matusow she had to testify to live and had to get more information. Dr. Ruth Matthews recalls the luncheon in detail and states her appointment book shows it was on December 4, 1952. She categorically states Bentley did not make the statements attributed to her by Matusow. Dr. Matthews does state Bentley was somewhat depressed and appeared to cry on one occasion during the luncheon.

Attachments (4)

2 - Los Angeles (Attachments-4)

2 - New Orleans (Attachments-4)

1 - End filed with original  
Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
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Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

1-134-435 (Bentley)

RJL:en

(13)

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53 MAR 22 1955

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Three persons have been located who recall meeting Bentley and Matusew at the Rochambeau Restaurant in New York City on a date in the fall of 1952. These persons are Ellenallyn Watts (named by Matusew as being there), Doris Hibbard and Earl Henry. Watts and Hibbard were with Bentley and Matusew substantially the entire period while the latter were in the Rochambeau Restaurant. Both Watts and Hibbard state they did not hear Bentley make the statements attributed to her by Matusew. Earl Henry was also at the table with the others for a short time and he claims he did not hear any statements made by Bentley as claimed by Matusew. Both Watts and Henry have stated Bentley was not seemingly depressed and showed no indication of crying.

To analyze the foregoing, it would appear possible that Matusew, in speaking of Bentley having cried, has confused in his mind the luncheon on December 4, 1952, and the dinner at the Rochambeau Restaurant which he states occurred on October 3, 1952. Regardless of which occasion he is actually talking about, we have potential witnesses to refute his main allegation which is that Bentley indicated she had lied in testimony.

The attention of all offices is directed to the fact that Watts, Hibbard and Henry were at one time friendly with Matusew and, if it has not been done previously, you should attempt to secure signed statements from these persons as potential witnesses in this matter. A signed statement also should be secured from Dr. Ruth Matthews.

The New York office should carefully review all of the investigation conducted concerning the Bentley phase of this matter and endeavor to secure further evidence. For example, you should contact the publishing firm of Levin-Adair, which Matusew mentioned in his testimony of February 22, 1955, and determine if they have any record of Bentley and Matusew being in their offices on October 3, 1952.

You should also review the information furnished by Mr. and Mrs. James Shean, Great Neck, New Jersey, who claim Matusew tried to secure a date with Mrs. Shean on October 3, 1952, and called Mrs. Shean between 5:30 and 6:30 p.m. on October 3, 1952, at which time Mrs. Shean told him the date was off. This is hardly consistent with the story told by Matusew that he made a date with Bentley during the afternoon of October 3, 1952. Mr. and Mrs. Shean also state they drove Matusew to the Idlewild Airport to catch the 2:20 p.m. flight for Appleton, Wisconsin, on October 4, 1952. You should endeavor to establish independently whether Matusew did leave for Appleton, Wisconsin, on October 4, 1952.

The importance of this entire matter is, of course, readily apparent to you. Matusew's allegations are a serious attack on the Government's whole security program. In attacking Elizabeth Bentley, Matusew appears to have selected a person whose reliability has never seriously been challenged. It is, therefore, of vital importance that this entire matter receive the most thorough investigative attention possible and that all leads are carried out promptly and thoroughly.

MARCH 21, 1955

AIRTEL

SAC, NEW YORK (orig. &amp; 1)

UNSUBS; HARVEY MATUSON, SUBORNATION OF PERJURY; PERJURY;  
 OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE. REBUREAU 3/15/55. NOT DESIRABLE  
 TO TAKE SIGNED STATEMENTS FROM WATTS, HIBBARD, HENRY AND  
 MATTHEWS AS VENUE WOULD APPEAR TO LIE IN DISTRICT OF  
 COLUMBIA INsofar AS MATUSON'S STATEMENTS CONCERNING BENTLEY  
 ARE CONCERNED. MATUSON'S TESTIMONY WAS BEFORE SENATE  
 INTERNAL SECURITY SUBCOMMITTEE.

HOOVER

100-375988

2 - Los Angeles  
 2 - New Orleans

RJL:er

(10)

CC: 134-435 (Bentley)



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 78 MAR 22 1955

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

71 MAR 28 1955

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-375988-1698

SAC, New Orleans (134-89)

March 21, 1955

(original and one)

Director, FBI (134-435)

**ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY**  
**CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE**

ReBureau March 11, 1955. There is no need to conceal the identity of Bentley as a confidential source in writing reports.

cc - 2 - New York  
Washington Field

RJL:sjr  
(8)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
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EX-125

134-435-137

2 MAR 22 1955

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1/1  
% TO Albany + All FIELD OFFICES  
2 21-45

Elizabeth Bentley, referred to in No Number SAC, Letter dated 5-4-50, SAC Letters 54-1 and 54-28, has now returned to the College of the Sacred Heart, Grand Coteau, Louisiana. Request for interviews with her should be directed to the New Orleans office.

134 - 435 - ✓  
NOT RECORDED  
80 MAR 22 1955

Re: Espionage and Internal  
Security Investigations  
(Full Utilization of Confidential  
Informants & Source of Information)  
66-18772

67 MAR 28 1955

✓  
Conf. P.  
File  
⑤



# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 4/1/55

FROM : SAC, DENVER

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH BENTLEY  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Sizoo	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

372 G.I.R-7 ✓

Enclosed herewith is a reprint from the Colorado Springs Colorado "Gazette-Telegraph," dated March 23, 1955, captioned "BENTLEY AND MATUSOW," by ROBERT LEFEVRE.

This article, among other things, states that ELIZABETH BENTLEY will speak in Colorado Springs on the night of Wednesday, April 13, 1955, at 8:15 P.M., at the Colorado Springs High School Auditorium.

On March 21, 1955, THEODORE FISHER, 715 North Nevada Avenue, Colorado Springs, (Telephone MELrose 3-2449) appeared at the Colorado Springs Resident Agency and informed SA HAROLD C. COOK of the personal appearance of ELIZABETH BENTLEY as indicated. He said that he, Mr. ROBERT DONNER, Mrs. JULIE PENROSE, and Mr. FRANK CUSACK, all of whom are wealthy and prominent persons in the Colorado Springs area, are backing this appearance. He stated the three aforementioned individuals have assumed the financial responsibility for the appearance of Miss BENTLEY in the event the crowd is small and receipts insufficient to pay expenses.

Mr. FISHER requested that Bureau Agents participate in the meeting as bodyguards of Miss BENTLEY. He was informed we could not perform this service and was referred to the Chief of Police at Colorado Springs.

No action is anticipated by the Denver Office in so far as coverage of this appearance is concerned UACB.

Enclosure (1)  
Registered  
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APR 12 1955

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COPIES

# BENTLEY AND MATUSOW

By: Robert Lefevre

Word has come that a brave and gracious lady is to visit us in Colorado Springs. Her name is Elizabeth Terrill Bentley. She has been, perhaps, the most useful individual in this country in helping the FBI and other law enforcement agencies in uncovering the shocking record of communist infiltration.

Miss Bentley will speak at the Colorado Springs High School Auditorium on the night of Wednesday, April 13th. She will hold forth from a wealth of experience torn from her heart by a staggering set of circumstances through which only the valiant could have lived.

Miss Bentley joined the American Communist Party in 1935 and placed herself under party discipline. For more than seven years she functioned as a courier agent in the Red underground, thus getting to know a great many of the actual men and women who were busily engaged in sapping the strength of the United States. In 1945, after a series of the most hair-raising adventures she went to the FBI and told them her story. Since then she has been cooperating with that agency and others who have been fighting to do away with Red subversion in America.

Here is an heroic saga. For even yet, in the dead of night, the phone will ring and at the other end of the line Miss Bentley will hear the sound of heavy breathing ... that is all. She has been subjected to the most gruelling type of cruelty, and is, of course, subject to constant suspicion.

Miss Bentley's character is now shown in even sharper contrast since the self-styled liar, Harvey Matusow, has reverted to type. Matusow, it will be remembered, is the Communist who broke with the Communists for what he considered would be greater prestige and money, and then when it was not forthcoming in the amounts to which he thought he was entitled, he reverted to his former loyalty thereby endeavoring to discredit every sincere one-time party member who has seen the error of his ways.

The secret workings of a man's soul are, of course, a matter which only that man can reveal. We, the public, can only judge a man on the basis of his words and his actions. Like the tortured Whittaker Chambers, who bared his deepest emotions and mental convictions with nearly whip-lash brutality in his book "I Was the Witness." And the kindly, gentle Louis Budenz, who at one time published the Daily Worker for the party, and now is doing a scholarly job of instructing students in the wiles and stratagems of Communist Party logorhythms.

Let us now compare Bentley and Matusow. Both of them were Communists. Both of them said they broke with the party. In this, Miss Bentley was sincere as her actions and words for ten years bear testimony.

Matusow's actions and words, right from the beginning of his alleged break, were suspected. The FBI found out that he was not to be trusted and stopped using him in short order.

Matusow had apparently fallen for his comrades' own propaganda. The Daily Worker some time ago branded all those who broke with the party as doing so for money and prestige. This Red juggernaut charged that men like Budenz and Chambers were growing wealthy, that all that was needed was for a Communist to stop being a Communist and he could make a good living attacking Communists.

Matusow apparently believed this hooey. He broke, and began to testify against others of minor stripe within the party. But he didn't get wealthy. No former Communist gets wealthy. The government pays traveling expenses and per diem when a witness is asked to testify. But that is all. And those who have to support themselves on the lecture platform, find that this is a precarious and impecunious way to make a living. Disillusioned, Matusow decided that he would be the first double double dealer in the current picture.

He figured, and correctly, that the party would welcome him back if he could discredit virtually every other witness. After all, the Reds don't care what kind of villain a party member performs so long as the party is supported. So Matusow is back with his own. He will be best remembered in a single word ... liar.

But Miss Bentley is a player in the same tragedy, and will be remembered by another word ... sincerity.

Colorado Springs should give a real welcome to the lady.

Elizabeth Bentley will speak in Colorado Springs on the night of Wednesday, April 13, 8:15 p.m. at the Colorado Springs High School Auditorium. She is sponsored by an informal group of local citizens. This will be Miss Bentley's only Colorado address. Her talk will deal with her experiences as an agent of the Soviet-American underground, and her subsequent collaboration with the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

TICKETS: Main floor, 13 rows, \$1.25; 13 rows, .85¢ (taxes included); Balcony: unreserved, .40¢ held for school, college and military enlisted personnel. Mail Orders to: Theodore Fisher Management, 715 N. Nevada Ave., Colo. Spgs., ME1rose 3-2449. (Enclose with your remittance a return stamped envelope, please). Box office at Norton Office Supplies, 125 E. Bijou Street, ME1rose 3-1789.

L. F. Boardman

April 11, 1955

A. H. Belmont

**WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR**  
**ESPIONAGE - R**

**SYNOPSIS:**

By memorandum 4-5-55 Mr. Nichols advised Mr. Tolson that Jay Sourwine made available a copy of a letter written by Attorney Byron W. Scott to Senator James O. Eastland charging Elizabeth Bentley made false charges against his client, William Henry Taylor. Bentley has advised Taylor, whom she never met, was a member of the Nathan Gregory Silvermaster Espionage Group. Scott demanded opportunity to cross examine Bentley. In a memorandum attached to Scott's letter he makes numerous charges (7 points) including that the Internal Security Subcommittee have circulated false charges against Taylor based on Bentley's testimony coupling him with Harry Dexter White, and the Subcommittee failed to publish Taylor's denial of these charges. Six of the points are aimed at the Subcommittee. Remaining point (point 5) deals with contradictions in testimony of Bentley. Under point 5 Scott charges Bentley with error in her testimony before Senate Internal Subcommittee as stating she received documents from Taylor. While the question directed to Bentley in her appearance before Internal Security Subcommittee on 6-14-51 was specific in asking Bentley who gave material to her, Bentley's reply was not entirely responsive. Bentley replied that Lud Ullman (William Ludwig Ullman) used to bring it (material) out. She stated sometimes Harry (Harry Dexter White) was leery about bringing it out himself. She then stated sometimes it would be given to Bill Taylor. It will be noted she did not say she received material from Taylor. Scott also alleges Bentley's statement before House Committee on Un-American (HCUA) Activities in 1948 as to her first contact with Bureau at variance with testimony of Director in his appearance before Jenner Committee in November, 1953. Bentley's testimony is in error with respect to date she first revealed her espionage activities to Bureau and with respect to espionage meet she felt Bureau covered which Bureau did not cover. Explaining this in December, 1954, Bentley advised she never saw transcript of testimony before HCUA in 1948 and, therefore, had no opportunity to make any corrections. Taylor and his attorney tried

100-870362

134-435-✓

cc - Mr. Boardman

NOT RECORDED -

J. M. Cole

100-154-435

(Elizabeth Bentley)

Mr. Belmont

167 MAY 2 1955

Mr. Nichols

Mr. Branigan

Mr. Jensen

EX-103  
(8) 55 MAY 3 1955

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to have Bentley appear before Loyalty Board in connection with Taylor's hearing as employee of International Monetary Fund (IMF). Bentley did not appear. It appears Scott is again making efforts to secure opportunity to cross examine Bentley, presumably seeking to discredit her. Taylor instituted half million dollar law suit against "Washington Daily News" in 1953.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It is suggested Mr. Nichols refer Jay Sourwine to part II, page 481 of the "Hearings Before the Subcommittee to Investigate the Administration of the Internal Security Act and Other Internal Security Laws of the Committee on the Judiciary United States Senate, Eighty-Second Congress, First Session on the Institute of Pacific Relations." These hearings were held on August 9, 14, 16, 20, 22, and 23, 1951. Attention of Sourwine should be directed to fact that Bentley's response to the question as to whom received documents from is not directly responsive since her answer is worded so as to name three persons who brought documents out of Treasury Department. While she names Taylor as one of the three she does not specifically say she received the documents from Taylor. Sourwine should be further informed that Bentley erred in her testimony before the HCUA but she has explained she had no opportunity to review transcript of testimony before HCUA in 1948 and, therefore, was unable to correct any errors.

2. It would not be in our interest to have Bentley cross examined before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee by a hostile attorney whose only purpose would be to discredit her and particularly where Bentley has previously testified she never knew Taylor personally. Taylor's attorney may also be seeking to bolster his libel suit by having an opportunity to cross examine Bentley.

### DETAILS:

Mr. Nichols by memorandum 4-5-55 to Mr. Tolson stated that Jay Sourwine of the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee advised Byron M. Scott, Attorney for William Henry Taylor, in a vitriolic letter to Senator James O. Eastland charged Elizabeth Bentley made false charges against his client. Bentley has advised Taylor, whom she never met, was a member of the Nathan Gregory Silvermaster Espionage Group. Scott demanded the Senate Internal Subcommittee call Bentley and afford Taylor a right to cross examine her. A photostat of Scott's letter and his memorandum pointing out wherein Bentley charges are false were reviewed in accordance with Mr. Nichols's suggestions.

Scott in his memorandum lists 7 specific points which are as follows:

#### Points 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7:

Points 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7 deal with charges made against his client (Taylor) by the Internal Security Subcommittee covering the period 1951 to 1954. Scott criticizes the actions of the Subcommittee in its handling of the charges against Taylor. He demands the opportunity to cross examine Miss Bentley in the interests of his client in order to determine the direct facts. Scott charges the Subcommittee has circulated false charges against Taylor based on Bentley's testimony coupling him with Harry Dexter White and having failed to publish Taylor's denials.

#### Comments:

Any action to be taken in connection with criticism of the Senate Internal Subcommittee is a matter that should not be decided upon by the FBI.

#### Point 5:

Under this point Scott comes directly to the crux of his memorandum stating that "Only through cross examination can we come to grips with the mass of contradictions and logical impossibilities which Miss Bentley has spread on the record." Scott then gives two examples of contradictions, one item in Bentley's testimony against William Taylor and one item in her general story.

Contradictions:

"Bentley says William Taylor gave her documents, but she has also said she has never met him." Scott charges Bentley at the Internal Security Subcommittee Hearings on the Institute of Pacific Relations on page 421 was asked "Who gave the (material of government documents) to you, for instance? She gave the names of Lud Ullmann and Bill Taylor." Scott then points out that Bentley in subsequent appearances testified she never met Taylor and, therefore, it would have been impossible for her to have received documents from a man she never met.

Comment:

Bentley testified on 8-14-51 before the afore-mentioned Committee and her testimony on page 421 actually reads as follows:

"Mr. Morris. Would you give us a concrete example of your dealings with Harry Dexter White?"

Miss Bentley. In the way of material?

Mr. Morris. Yes. Who gave it to you, for instance?

Miss Bentley. Well, in the early days Lud Ullmann, who was then working in the Treasury, used to bring it out. Sometimes Harry was leery about bringing it out himself. Sometimes it would be given to Bill Taylor.

Mr. Morris. Who is William Taylor?

Miss Bentley. He was another Communist Party member in the Treasury who paid his dues and was a member of the Silvermaster Group."

Bentley does not say Taylor gave her documents, but does say Taylor brought documents out of the Treasury. Her answer was not responsive to the specific question asked, but in light of her general story that she did not know Taylor. Scott's interpretation of this testimony is in error. The error attributed by Scott appears immaterial and does not appear to discredit the over-all story of Bentley.

B.

"Miss Bentley's story as to when she first broke her story to the FBI and when she put herself under FBI orders is in direct conflict with the facts as spread on the record by J. Edgar Hoover."



Scott alleges Bentley, in 1948, testified before the HCUA that her first visit to the FBI was in New Haven on ~~AUGUST~~ 21, or 22, 1945, and then she told the whole espionage story to the FBI. Bentley also reportedly told the HCUA that her meeting on 10-17-45 with her Russian contact "Al" (which resulted in her getting \$2,000 to continue espionage work) took place in obedience to FBI instructions. He also said Bentley stated she had every reason to believe the FBI observed the whole transaction.

Comments:

Bentley actually did testify as alleged by Scott in her appearance before the HCUA on 8-11-48. She was in error. In December, 1954, we interviewed Bentley about alleged discrepancies that appeared in her testimony before the HCUA in 1948. Bentley advised she had had no opportunity to review a transcript of her testimony before the HCUA in 1948 and, therefore, was unable to correct any errors.

Bentley actually contacted the FBI at New Haven on 8-23-45 and reported an impersonation complaint against Peter Heller. She next contacted our New York office on 10-16-45 at which time she repeated her impersonation complaint against Peter Heller. Details concerning her complaint regarding Heller were prepared in a memorandum from Mr. Boardman to the Director dated 1-25-55. Bentley next appeared at the New York office on 11-7-45 at which time she voluntarily furnished information regarding her espionage activities. We, therefore, had no knowledge in October, 1945, as to her relationship with "Al" at the time she reportedly received the \$2,000 from him. Bentley was observed by Agents to make a contact with "Al" (Anatoli B. Gronov, First Secretary of the Soviet Embassy) on 11-21-45 in New York City. Regarding the \$2,000 Bentley, did, on 11-16-45, tell Agents of having received this money from Gronov in October. On 11-17-45 Bentley furnished the \$2,000 to Bureau Agents in New York City and this money is still retained by the New York office in a safe deposit box.

The Director, of course, in his testimony on 11-17-53 before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee furnished the correct facts as to the date we first met Bentley. Scott's charges that Bentley must be in error as to the dates involved are correct.

### OBSERVATIONS:

In September, 1954, Taylor, in an appearance before a Federal Grand Jury, pointed out minor inaccuracies in connection with Elizabeth Bentley's story. These inaccuracies were discussed with Elizabeth Bentley in December, 1954, and do not appear to counteract the over-all weight of her testimony. It appeared then as it does now that Taylor and his attorney have made a thorough study of Bentley's testimony checking possible points no matter how small with which to discredit her. Taylor's grand jury testimony is, of course, not public knowledge. Also in connection with these efforts on the part of Taylor and his attorney it should be borne in mind that in November, 1953, Taylor instituted a half million dollar libel suit against the "Washington Daily News."

One of the points made by Scott does seemingly indicate an inaccuracy on Bentley's part but at the same time Bentley has testified on numerous occasions before Congressional Committees and has had to answer questions calling for answers not known firsthand to her. It is only normal that some of this information would be subject to question. The points made are somewhat insignificant and do not appear to discredit Miss Bentley. Efforts were made by Taylor and his attorney to have Bentley appear before the Loyalty Hearing Board in 1954 in connection with the hearing afforded Taylor as an employee of the IMF. Bentley did not appear. It is felt that Scott is now making another effort to have Bentley appear as a witness and subject herself to cross examination in order that her testimony might be discredited.

It is felt the Bureau should be opposed to any appearance of Bentley before any Subcommittee that might subject her to cross examination for the following reasons:

1. A precedent would be set allowing cross examination of former Bureau informants and sources that might have far reaching implications in connection with various hearings held by Congressional Committees, Loyalty Hearing Boards and other related type matters.

2. The Bureau has a definite interest in Bentley as a potential witness in any future proceedings in the Silvermaster case. Proceedings in this case are a distinct possibility as Mr. William Ludwig Ullmann (Silvermaster case principal) was cited for contempt on 3-8-55 under the new Immunity Bill.

L. V. BOARDMAN

April 21, 1955

A. H. BELMONT

37231

WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR  
ESPIONAGE - R

In Mr. Nichols' memorandum (4/19/55) it was stated William Henry Taylor was making much of the point Elizabeth Bentley was always referring to a "Bill" Taylor. Jay Sourvine stated there were three "Bill" Taylors in the Treasury Department. He assumed our investigation resolved any possibility of misidentification. Mr. Nichols said we would recheck this. The Director commented, "Do so promptly."

Elizabeth Bentley's Allegations:

Bentley has advised that one of Harry Dexter White's most valuable assets as far as the Silvermaster group was concerned was his ability to place in the Treasury Department individuals of interest to the network. Among this group she lists William Taylor. She said Taylor was sent to China by the Treasury Department and she believed he later went to Portugal. She recalled Taylor had given to the network a report on conditions in China and other oral and written information in period after his return from China and before going abroad. She never met Taylor, but learned of him from Silvermaster and William Ludwig Ullmann. Bentley speaks of William Taylor in her statement to us and not "Bill" Taylor.

Identification of Taylor:

The following are the facts on which the Washington Field Office identified William Henry Taylor as the individual named by Bentley: William Henry Taylor received a job with Treasury in January, 1941, through Harry Dexter White and was recommended by W. G. Silvermaster, who claimed to have had known Taylor since 1932. He was sent to China in May, 1941, as a member of the Chinese Stabilization Board. He returned to the Treasury Department in

100-370362

cc - Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Branigan

cc - J. M. Cole  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Jensen

cc - 134-435 (Elizabeth Bentley)

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September, 1942, and in May, 1944, was sent to London. He was in contact of William Ludwig Ullmann, Victor Perlo, Allan Rosenberg and Solomon Adler, all individuals named as espionage agents by Bentley. We had also received allegations of pro-Soviet and Communist sympathies on the part of William Henry Taylor. The only point where Bentley's information does not correspond with William Henry Taylor is her statement, she believed he went to Portugal. She has been reinterviewed and cannot clarify this.

Other Taylors In The Treasury Department:

Our files do not reflect data on three "Bill" Taylors in the Treasury Department. We have a record of a William H. Taylor who worked in Treasury in 1948 on the char force.

ACTION:

For your information and it is not believed that there is a possibility of a wrong identification in this matter. If you desire we can instruct the W.F.O. to contact the Treasury Department and obtain all data in their files on William Taylors who have been employed by that agency.

~~TOP SECRET~~

L. V. Boardman

April 21, 1955

A. H. Belmont

**WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR**  
**ESPIONAGE - R**

Classified by 6428 2/24/78  
Exempt from GDS, Category 2  
Date of Declassification: Indefinite Indefinite

**SYNOPSIS:**

In an article in the "Washington Daily News" of 4/18/55 and in Stewart Alsop's column of 4/19/55 in the "Washington Post and Times Herald" information is set forth reflecting Byron N. Scott, (the attorney for William Henry Taylor, who is an employee of the International Monetary Fund under loyalty charges) has filed a document with International Organizations Employees Loyalty Board charging Bentley with demonstrable falsehoods. Taylor's attorney also issued a press release on 4/18/55 making similar charges against Bentley and criticizing the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee. The Director instructed this matter be carefully analyzed.

In the details there is an analysis of various points made against Bentley and our comments on each point. Briefly, the facts in this matter are as follows: Bentley never met Taylor personally and her data concerning him is hearsay obtained from the Silvermasters and others, but it was her understanding a William Taylor was a member of the network in the Treasury Department who was furnishing documents to the network. Our investigation reflected close association between Taylor and members of the network. Taylor was a friend of W. G. Silvermaster before entering the Treasury Department in January, 1941. Harry D. White offered him his Treasury job and in interview in 1947 by Bureau agents Taylor said he obtained his job at Treasury through Silvermaster. Taylor has since denied to the Loyalty Board he said this. The case against Taylor is not overly strong and Taylor has fought removal from the International Monetary Fund.

Taylor also brought suit against the "Washington Daily News" in late 1953 because of an article (11/20/53) linking him with H. D. White during the White controversy in the Fall of 1953. The suit has not been tried. Taylor and his attorney are seeking to attack Bentley's over-all testimony by reviewing her public testimony concerning Taylor and others and playing up seeming inconsistencies. Taylor did this in testimony before a Federal Grand Jury in Washington in September, 1954. We at that time analyzed the various points made by Taylor and

100-370362

cc - Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Branigan

cc - Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Jensen

cc - 134-435 (Elizabeth Bentley)

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interviewed Bentley concerning them. We do not have the document mentioned in the news article as filed with the Loyalty Board. We did instruct the WFO by memorandum of April 19, 1955, to obtain it and furnish copies to the Bureau. U

In essence, the charges made by Taylor and his attorney (which are analyzed in the details) are to the effect Bentley's testimony against Taylor is contradictory, and her testimony concerning others is inconsistent. An attempt is therefore being made to attack the credibility of Bentley, and by so doing defeat the loyalty charges against Taylor, win his suit against the "Washington Daily News," and incidental thereto, destroy Bentley's value as a witness against others. Taylor's attorney also strongly criticizes the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee and is apparently seeking to get enough publicity on this matter to force some action. U

As the analysis in the details shows, there have been several inconsistencies in Bentley's public testimony which have also differed in certain respects from the data she furnished to us. Taylor's attorney demands the right to cross-examine Bentley before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee on the various points. He is seeking to put the Committee and the Government on the defensive on this entire matter. It is believed the best defense to this overall attack on Bentley's credibility would be in showing that in many important respects there is corroboration for Bentley's testimony. No attempt is being made here to show all the corroboration except with respect to a few important points. Whittaker Chambers named H. D. White and Abraham G. Silverman as Soviet agents active in the late 1930's. These persons were later named by Bentley. We did observe in November, 1945, a meeting between Bentley and Anatoli Gromov who has been named by the Soviet defector, Rastvorov, as a high Soviet official whose real name is Gorski. Bentley did give us the \$2,000 which she got from Gromov in October, 1945. Bentley named as her Soviet superior an individual we later identified as Joseph Katz. We have five other potential witnesses including Harry Gold who worked in espionage in the United States under Katz. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] In addition to the foregoing, there is security-type information available concerning a large number of the persons named by Bentley, and the majority of the persons she named have in public appearances sought refuge behind the Fifth Amendment. (b)(1)

TS

**ACTION:**

1) The foregoing is for your information and we will follow the developments in this matter very closely and as soon as we receive from the WFO the document filed by Taylor's attorney with the Loyalty Board, it will be reviewed for any other charges of possible discrepancy in Bentley's past testimony. (WFO has advised the document will be submitted to the Bureau today.)

2) While at the present stage, it is not felt the Bureau is in a position to take any positive action on this matter. It is believed the best defense of Bentley's credibility would be to make as strong a showing as possible of the corroboration of Bentley's testimony, rather than trying to defend on the basis of the individual items of inconsistency.

3) It would not be in our interest to have Bentley cross-examined before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee by a hostile attorney, whose only purpose would be to discredit her, and particularly where Bentley has previously testified she never knew Taylor personally.

- 1 - Just what did Brownell say re Taylor?
- 2 - Did I ever publicly mention Taylor?
- 3 - I assume you are preparing a detailed brief. H.

### DETAILS:

In an article in the "Washington Daily News" of 4/18/55 and in Stewart Alsop's column 4/19/55 in the "Washington Post and Times Herald," information is set forth reflecting that Byron N. Scott, attorney for William Henry Taylor, has filed a document with the International Organizations Employees Loyalty Board, charging Bentley with demonstrable falsehoods. Scott also issued a press release on 4/18/55 to which there was attached a letter dated 4/4/55 to Senator Eastland, Chairman of the Internal Security Subcommittee. In the letter to Senator Eastland, Scott demands the right to cross-examine Bentley on contradictions in her testimony. The Director instructed that this matter be carefully analyzed.

### Allegations Against Taylor:

Taylor is an employee of the International Monetary Fund who has been under loyalty charges over a considerable period. Briefly, the allegations concerning Taylor are as follows:

Bentley never met Taylor personally and her data concerning him is hearsay obtained from the Silvermasters and others, but it was her understanding a William Taylor was a member of the network in the Treasury Department who was furnishing documents to the network. Our investigation reflected close association between Taylor and members of the network. Taylor was a friend of H. G. Silvermaster before entering the Treasury Department in January, 1941. Harry Dexter White offered him his Treasury job and in interview in 1947 by Bureau agents, Taylor said he obtained his job at Treasury through Silvermaster. Taylor has since denied to the Loyalty Board that he said this. The case against Taylor is not overly strong and Taylor has sought removal from the International Monetary Fund.

### Analysis of Charges Made Against Bentley's Testimony:

Taylor brought suit against the "Washington Daily News" in late 1953 because of an article (11/20/53) linking him with Harry Dexter White during the White controversy in the Fall of 1953. The suit has not been tried. Taylor and his attorney have been seeking to attack Bentley's over-all testimony by reviewing her public testimony before Congressional committees concerning Taylor and others and by playing up seeming inconsistencies. Taylor did this in testimony before a Federal grand jury in Washington in September, 1954. He, at that time, analyzed the various points made by Taylor and interviewed Bentley concerning them. The "Washington News" article of 4/18/55 reflects Taylor has filed a 107-page brief listing alleged inconsistencies in Bentley's testimony. He does not have this brief, but instructed the WFO

by memorandum 6/19/53 to obtain the brief and furnish copies to the Bureau. The points mentioned in the "Lens" article and previously made by Taylor are briefly reviewed hereinafter:

Charge No. 1: Bentley testified she first went to the FBI in New Haven in August, 1943, and was under FBI orders when she met Anatoli Gromov in New York City on 10/17/43. Attorney Scott pointed out Attorney General Brownell in testimony on 11/19/53 said her story of espionage was first sent by the FBI to the White House on 11/8/45. (The interview was on 11/7/45.)

Comment: Bentley did testify as alleged before HCUA on 8/11/48 and was in error. She actually did contact New Haven office on 8/23/43 on impersonation complaint. It was not until 11/7/45 that she appeared at the NY office and gave espionage data. It did not surveil meeting with Gromov on 10/17/43; however, we did cover meeting with Gromov in November, 1943.

Charge No. 2: Bentley testified in 1948 that in July, 1941, Silvermaster met Jacob Golos at request of Earl Browder. It is charged Browder was in prison at that time (March, 1941 to May, 1942).

Comment: Bentley before HCUA in 1948 does say Golos in about July, 1941, told her he had received from Earl Browder the name of a man working for the Government who could help get data for Russia and who could organize a network. Bentley said this was Silvermaster. She did not testify Silvermaster met Golos in July, 1941, as alleged, and also testified in 1948 that Silvermaster and Golos were acquainted in early 1930's. In her book (page 149) she does point out Browder was in prison and indicates this made more difficult Golos' task in contacting Silvermaster.

Charge No. 3: Bentley has testified that she channeled through Golos information she received from a group headed by Victor Perle, and that she met Perle first in March, 1944. It was pointed out Golos died in November, 1943.

Comment: Bentley did testify as alleged in 1948. She was inaccurate and has admitted to us she was in error. Bentley's statements to the Bureau are accurate on this point.

Charge No. 4: That Bentley has claimed to have known I-Day in advance, while top U. S. generals have stated the actual date was contingent upon many things, including the weather.

Comment: Bentley in testimony on 7/31/48 before HCUA did state she learned about I-Day in advance from Ullman who had learned the date through his connections with General Hildring's office. Bentley in her signed statement to us in 1948 said she received information on the approximate scheduled date of I-Day.

Charge No. 5: Bentley testified data on the Coolittle Raid on Tokyo (April, 1942) was made available to her from William Ludwig Ullman. Scott charged Ullman was not in Armed Services until October, 1942. It is further charged Bentley said this was a B-29 raid and it was not.

Comment: Bentley actually testified (May, 1949) she got data on a B-29 raid on Japan from Ullman; she did at one point indicate she received data on the Coolittle raid. We have interviewed her on this point and she insists she got data on a B-29 raid from Ullman and that this was in 1944. She does not recall referring to this as the Coolittle raid.

Charge No. 6: Charged that while Bentley has testified she never met Taylor, she has claimed documents were obtained from him.

Comment: Bentley in her actual testimony (August, 1951) does not say that she actually received the documents from Taylor although the question asked of her was directed to that point. She does state Taylor furnished documents. She has consistently stated she never met Taylor. It would appear on this point that Taylor's attorney is purposely misinterpreting her testimony.

Charges Made by Taylor's Attorney Against the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee

In a letter dated 4/4/53 to Senator Eastland, Chairman of the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee, and in a press release issued by Byron Scott, Taylor's attorney 4/16/53, Scott demands the right to cross-examine Bentley on the basis of the various



inconsistencies in her public testimony. Scott also makes certain charges against the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee which, briefly, are as follows:

1. It is charged that the Subcommittee has circulated Bentley's charges against Taylor in 1951, 1953 and 1954.

2. That the Subcommittee's report for 1954 linked Taylor and Harry Dexter White in connection with an internal Treasury Department memorandum of 3/7/44.

3. That the Subcommittee has not released Taylor testimony in Executive Committee hearings on 12/1/39 where he denied Bentley charges.

4. The Subcommittee has praised Bentley's testimony as "flawlessly truthful," but has never allowed her to be cross-examined.

5. That certain of Bentley's testimony can be demonstrated as being contradictory (the points made here are covered in the analysis of the charges made against Bentley).

6. That Taylor by the Subcommittee's charges has been subjected to suspicion, given un/augurable publicity, and twice efforts were made to disqualify him from the International Monetary Fund.

7. That a cross-examination of Bentley is necessary in order to afford Taylor a chance to clear himself and also is in the public interest.

#### Observations:

1) From the foregoing, it is to be observed that there have been several inconsistencies in Bentley's public testimony. With respect to certain points, Bentley is in a position to explain what she meant, but with respect to others she would have to admit she was in error. It is noted that certain of the statements made by her in public testimony have differed from the facts as she gave them to the Bureau starting in 1945.



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2) It is believed the best defense to this over-all attack on Bentley's credibility would be in showing that in many important respects there is corroboration in Bentley's story. An attempt is being made here to show this corroboration except with respect to a few important points. Whittaker Chambers named Harry Dexter White and Abraham G. Silverman as Soviet agents active in the late 1930's. These persons were later named by Bentley. He did observe in November, 1945, a meeting between Bentley and Anatoli Gromov who has been named by the Soviet defector Eastorov as a high Soviet official whose real name is Goraki. Bentley did give us the \$2,000 which she got from Gromov in October, 1945. Bentley named on her Soviet superior an individual we later identified as Joseph Katz. We have five other potential witnesses, including Harry Gold, who worked in espionage in the United States under Katz.

[REDACTED] It is not felt the Bureau is in a position to take any positive action on this matter at the present stage.

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3) It would not be in the Bureau's interest to have Bentley cross-examined by a hostile attorney before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee where the attorney's only purpose would be to discredit Bentley.

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4) We are following the developments in this matter very closely and as soon as we receive from the WFO the document filed by Tylor's attorney with the Loyalty Board, it will be reviewed for any other charges of possible discrepancy in Bentley's past testimony.

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April 22, 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON  
MR. BOARDMAN  
MR. BELMONT  
MR. NICHOLS

Assistant Attorney General Tompkins, in charge of the Internal Security Division of the Department of Justice, called to advise that he had talked to Jay Sourwins, Chief Counsel for the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee, and the Subcommittee feels they are going to have to call William H. Taylor. Mr. Tompkins stated the Subcommittee had no intention of calling Elizabeth Bentley; that they were in accord with the views of the Department and are well aware that they can go so far with people without injuring their health.

Mr. Tompkins also mentioned that he had sounded out David H. Harris, an attorney in the Internal Security Division of the Department, who felt that Steinberg tied in with the Alexander Trachtenburg and George Blake Charney cases and he thought these latter two cases should be tried right away without the Matusow evidence. Mr. Tompkins stated the Department was going to make an announcement Monday that these cases would be tried right away in an effort to get a conviction without Matusow. He stated he would keep us posted.

Very truly yours,

134-435 ✓  
NO  
170 APR 25 1955

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

cc - Mr. Holloman

JH:EH (7)

SENT FROM D. O.  
TIME 4:25 PM  
DATE 4-27-55  
BY RLW

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A. H. Belmont

April 22, 1955

W. A. Branigan

WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR  
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In your memorandum to Mr. Boardman, dated 4/21/55, information was set forth concerning charges made by Taylor against Bentley. It was pointed out that a 107-page brief had been filed by Byron N. Scott, Taylor's attorney, before the International Organizations Employees Loyalty Board and we were obtaining a copy to review. We have received two copies of the 107-page brief and on reading find that a lengthy and detailed study of this matter has been made by Taylor and his attorneys. We, in turn, will have to do a lot of research in our files and of Bentley's public testimony to check on various phases of this matter. Eight men are presently assigned to this project and are going to work Saturday, 4/23/55. A brief will be submitted as early as possible next week, analyzing the various aspects of this attack on Bentley and the Government.

ACTION: This is for your information.

RJL:cm

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CC: 184-435 (Elizabeth Bentley) ✓

(P)

Tycklers: Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Branigan  
Mr. J. M. Cole  
Mr. R. G. Jensen

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L. V. Boardman

April 25, 1955

A. H. Belmont

**WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR**  
**ESPIONAGE - R**

In connection with my memorandum to you of 4/21/55, the Director asked as to what Attorney General Brownell said regarding Taylor. In his speech before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee on 11/17/53, the Attorney General summarized portions of our 2/1/46 summary on Harry Dexter White. This included a paragraph which the Attorney General summarized as follows:

"According to the information received by the FBI, White was considered one of the most valuable assets in this particular parallel of Soviet intelligence. This view was taken since in his capacity as Assistant Secretary of the United States Treasury, those individuals whom this group were anxious to have assigned there could be placed in the Treasury Department. Among the persons in this category were William Ludwig Ullmann, William Henry Taylor and Senta Steinman Gold."

The Director asked whether he (the Director) had ever publicly mentioned Taylor. The Director did not mention Taylor in his 11/17/53 speech before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee. A review of the Taylor case and other material fails to reflect that the Director had at any other time publicly named Taylor. In the 107-page brief, Taylor claims that while the Director did not mention him by name, the Subcommittee, the Subcommittee asked for a record of dissemination on certain individuals and while the Committee did not ask for data on Taylor, it was provided. While this is true, our records reflect we prepared the dissemination material on Taylor pursuant to a request from AAG Warren Olney III to the Director, dated 11/19/53. By memorandum 12/9/53 we furnished to Mr. Olney information requested on the various individuals, including Taylor.

RJL:en  
100-377362

CC - Mr. Boardman

Mr. Belmont

Mr. Brannigan

Mr. Nichols

Mr. J.M. Cold

Mr. E.O. Jensen

134-435 (Ellie Bentley)

*Sand memo  
to AG, Rogers,  
Holney*

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**SENT DIRECTOR**

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The Director stated he assumed we were preparing a detailed brief. We are in the process of carefully analyzing the 107-page brief submitted by Taylor to the Loyalty Board. We are carefully searching our files on the various points made by Taylor and we will submit as soon as possible a detailed brief on this entire matter.

ACTION: The foregoing is for your information.



Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (134-435)  
FROM : SAC, NEW ORLEANS (134-89)  
SUBJECT: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY  
CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE

DATE: 5/6/55

During an interview with Miss BENTLEY on April 30, 1955 she advised that she plans to leave Lafayette, Louisiana and drive to her home in Madison, Connecticut sometime between the dates of May 25 and May 31, 1955.

Offices to which this letter is directed who have leads to interview Miss BENTLEY should be guided accordingly.

As soon as Miss BENTLEY definitely decides what date she will depart from Lafayette, you will be advised.

REGISTERED MAIL

1 cc: New Haven (REGISTERED)  
1 cc: New York (134-182) (REGISTERED)  
1 cc: Newark (REGISTERED)  
1 cc: Detroit (REGISTERED)  
1 cc: Washington Field (REGISTERED)

JBH:dfs

(8)

RECORDED  
SERIALIZED  
MAY 15 11 55 AM '55  
FBI NEW YORK  
RECEIVED

MAY 10 1955

FBI

RECEIVED

MAY 15 1 24 PM '55

RECEIVED

63 MAY 16 1955

DATE: May 4, 1955

Mr. Tolson

L. B. Nichols

Tolson  
Boardman  
Nichols  
Belmont  
Mohr  
Parsons  
Rosen  
Tamm  
Trotter  
Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Holloman  
Gandy

Drew Pearson in his April 30th broadcast stated:

Senator Hennings, Missouri, has an interesting wire tap file on Elizabeth Bentley, the alleged Communist courier, which may come out in his probe on wire tapping.

The Domestic Intelligence Division suggested that I make inquiries regarding this matter on the Hill. I did talk to Jay Sourwine who knew nothing whatsoever regarding this but since Hennings is a member of the Internal Security Subcommittee, Sourwine will have Senator Eastland ask Hennings for the file, since this could conceivably go into the William Henry Taylor matter. Sourwine will let us know what he finds out.

With reference to the possibility of a subcommittee headed by Senator Hennings holding hearings on wire tapping, I can find absolutely no trace of any possibility of a hearing at this time. In fact, Sourwine told me today he had made inquiry of Hennings on this and Hennings stated that he had nothing planned or scheduled.

In this connection Mike Horan talked to Tom Collins of the Senate Judiciary Committee staff who handled the wire tapping legislation last year. Collins told Horan he was not handling the matter this year and that so far as he knows Hennings has no one lined up and he has heard nothing. Horan further stated that he made a routine inquiry of David Luger and Alan Lindsay in the Criminal Division as to whether the Criminal Division had any pending inquiries from Hennings' subcommittee on wire tapping. They both stated they had no knowledge of this and in fact were talking about the matter of wire tapping with Warren Olney on the morning of May 4th and Olney had had any knowledge he no doubt would have told them.

Hennings is Chairman of Subcommittee No. 4 of the Senate Judiciary Committee which consists of Senators Hennings, McClellan, O'Mahoney, Watkins and Waker.

cc: Mr. Boardman

cc: Mr. Belmont

LBN:MM

(4)

NOT RECORDED

CLERK REC

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson ✓

FROM : L. B. Nichols ✓

SUBJECT: <sup>①</sup> ELIZABETH BENTLEY

DATE: May 20, 1955

Tolson ✓  
Boardman ✓  
Belmont ✓  
Clegg ✓  
Glavin ✓  
Ladd ✓  
Nichols ✓  
Rosen ✓  
Tracy ✓  
Harbo ✓  
Mohr ✓  
Parsons ✓  
Quinn ✓  
Tamm ✓  
Trotter ✓  
Winterrowd ✓  
Tele. Room ✓  
Holloman ✓  
Gandy ✓

Bob Morris on May 19th informed me that Elizabeth Bentley had been in touch with Roy Cohn; that the Internal Revenue Service had delivered an ultimatum on Elizabeth Bentley that unless she paid up a controverted item of income tax totalling some \$1800 by next week, the Internal Revenue Bureau would institute proceedings against her.

Morris stated that at the time she filed her return during the years when she wrote her book and the articles and had a fairly substantial income, her attorney had recommended she spread the income over a period of three or four years, however, subsequently Internal Revenue had ruled against her. Her attorney, however, felt this ruling was not consistent and recommended she not pay. She is now very much upset over the latest move.

Morris stated it would be tragic if the Internal Revenue did proceed against Elizabeth Bentley. Morris stated he was going to take the matter up with Rogers in the Department and is going to point out that if arbitrary action is taken against Elizabeth Bentley, this would stir up not only the anti-Communists against the Department, but would give fodder to the leftwingers who have been criticizing Elizabeth Bentley.

cc: Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Belmont

LBN:MM  
(4)

EX-104 ✓

RECORDED - 78

134-435-140

INDEXED - 78

MAY 22 1955

Send memo  
a.g. & Tompkins  
without disclosing  
source.

H

5- [Signature]

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

(original and 1)

May 24, 1955

Director, FBI

134-435-140

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S), IF

RECORDED - 78  
ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY  
SECURITY INFORMANT

DATE

Classification  
2/28/78 ELL/125

The following information has been furnished  
to the Bureau by an outside source:

This source states during the period that  
Bentley was writing her book and articles, she had  
a fairly substantial income. On the advice of her  
attorney she spread this income from her publications  
over a period of three to four years. The Internal  
Revenue Service ruled against her; however, her  
attorney felt this ruling was inconsistent and recom-  
mended that she not pay.

This source reports the Internal Revenue  
Service has now demanded that Bentley pay the item in  
dispute, totaling \$1,800, by this week or the Internal  
Revenue Service would institute proceedings against  
her.

This source observed that any arbitrary  
action against Bentley would stir up anti-Communists  
and would give ammunition to leftwing elements which  
have been criticizing Bentley.

The above is being referred to you for your  
information.

DECLASSIFIED BY 6428

134-435 ON 2/24/78

cc - 1 - Assistant Attorney General  
William F. Tompkins

NOTE: This letter is written in response to the notation  
of the Director, "Send memo to AG and Tompkins without  
disclosing source" noted on the memo of Mr. Nichols to  
Mr. Tolson dated 5/20/55 bearing this caption and attached  
hereto.

Tolson  
Boardman  
Nichols  
Belmont  
Harbo  
Mohr  
Parsons  
Rosen  
Tamm  
Trotter  
Tele. Room  
Holloman  
Gandy

59 JUN 1 1955

CONFIDENTIAL

GIR

RECEIVED  
MAY 25 1955  
JUN 1 1955

RECEIVED

23 JUN 1 1955

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (134-435)  
FROM : SAC, NEW ORLEANS (134-89)  
SUBJECT: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY  
CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE

DATE: May 26, 1955

*Noted*  
Pursuant to the instructions in Paragraph O of SAC letter 55-35, the above-captioned individual is being deleted as a confidential source. Inasmuch as she is being contacted regularly, she will be converted to a source of information.

REGISTERED MAIL

MRK:eah  
(4)

U S DEPT OF JUSTICE  
RECEIVED  
JUN 3 15 52 PM '55

RECORDED  
EX-103

134-435-141

17 MAY 31 1955

INT. SEC.

50 JUN 6 1955



# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director

DATE: 6/25/55

FROM : J. P. Mohr

SUBJECT: The Congressional Record

Pages A3591- Congressman Roosevelt, (D) California, extended his remarks  
— 13593 to include an article from the Washington Post and Times  
Herald of May 22, 1955, entitled "Fund Official Seeks  
Bentley Confrontation." The references to the Director  
and the FBI were set forth in a memorandum written earlier  
this date.

Original filed in:

134-435-143  
RECORDED  
7 JUN 2 1955

INDEXED - 47

50 JUN 7 1955

In the original of a memorandum captioned and dated as above, the Congressional Record for June 7, 1955, was reviewed and pertinent items were marked for the Director's attention. This form has been prepared in order that portions of a copy of the original memorandum may be clipped, mounted, and placed in appropriate Bureau case or subject matter files.

SAC, Washington Field (orig. and 1)

June 1, 1955

Director, FBI (134-435)

**ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY**  
**SOURCE OF INFORMATION**

As you well know, allegations as to the authenticity of the story of Elizabeth Bentley have been circulated by William Henry Taylor and his attorney, Byron N. Scott. Alleged inconsistencies of Elizabeth Bentley in her appearances before various congressional committees have been cited to attack her credibility.

It is requested that you make efforts to secure five copies of the following:

Senate, Investigations Subcommittee of the Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments, Hearings on Export Policy and Loyalty, July 30, 1948.

House, Committee on Un-American Activities, Hearings regarding Communist Espionage in the United States Government, July 31, August 4-9-10-11-12-13, 1948.

Senate, Subcommittee on Immigration and Naturalization of the Committee on the Judiciary, Hearings on Communist Activities Among Aliens and National Groups, May 13, 1949.

House, Subcommittee of Committee on Un-American Activities, Hearings regarding Communism in the United States Government - Part I, May 6, 1950.

Senate, Internal Security Subcommittee of the Committee on the Judiciary, Hearings on the Institute of Pacific Relations, Part 2, August 14, 1951.

RECORDED - 30

Senate, Internal Security Subcommittee of the Committee on the Judiciary, Hearings on Inter-looking Subversion in Government Departments, Part 16, November-December, 1953.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

RGJ:ing

(See note page 2)

New Orleans (for info)

New Haven (for info)

1 - New York (for info)

COMM - FBI

JUN 1 1955

MAILED 20

WATSON  
RGT

JUN 8 1955

Letter to SAC, Washington Field

RE: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY  
SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Senate, Internal Security Subcommittee of the  
Committee on the Judiciary, Report on Inter-  
locking Subversion in Government Departments,  
July 30, 1953.

Senate Subcommittee on Government Operations  
Abroad of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investi-  
gations of the Committee on Government Operations,  
Hearings on Transfer of Occupation Currency Plates -  
Espionage Phase, October 20 and 21, 1953.

Bentley has testified before the above-listed committees  
on the dates indicated. In the event you are unable to secure  
copies of these documents at the Government Printing Office,  
efforts should be made to secure Photostats of the testimony of  
Elizabeth Bentley given before these various committees. You  
should retain a copy of the above-listed documents in your files  
for possible future reference. In addition to forwarding one copy  
of these documents to the Bureau, you should also forward a copy  
of these documents to the New Haven, New Orleans and New York  
offices.

NOTE:

Copies of these documents to be made available to New Haven,  
New Orleans and the NY offices as Bentley has been known to spend  
time in areas covered by those offices each year. In view of attacks  
made on credibility of Bentley, the possibility exists those offices  
at a future date may be required to interview Bentley re her  
testimony.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (134-435)

DATE: June 3, 1955

FROM : SAC, NEW ORLEANS (134-89)

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY  
SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Remylet May 6, 1955.

This is to advise that on May 31, 1955, ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY departed from Lafayette, Louisiana, enroute to her home in Madison, Connecticut. She should arrive in Madison around June 8, 1955.

REGISTERED MAIL

JBH:eah

lcc: NEW HAVEN (REGISTERED MAIL)

lcc: NEW YORK (134-182) (REGISTERED MAIL)

lcc: NEWARK (REGISTERED MAIL)

lcc: DETROIT (REGISTERED MAIL)

lcc: WFO (REGISTERED MAIL)

(8)

RECORDED - 50  
EX - 116

134-435-145

24 JUN 6 1955

*[Handwritten signature]*

RECEIVED  
JUN 8 2 11 PM '55

RECEIVED  
JUN 9 3 11 PM '55

55 JUN 13 1955

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO :

Mr. Tolson *V. per D*

DATE: June 4, 1955

FROM :

L. B. Nichols *W-1*

SUBJECT:

ELIZABETH BENTLEY

Tolson	✓
Boardman	✓
Nichols	✓
Belmont	✓
Harbo	✓
Mohr	✓
Parsons	✓
Rosen	✓
Tamm	✓
Sizoo	✓
Winterrowd	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Holloman	✓
Gandy	✓

Ben Mandel told me that Elizabeth Bentley is in town. Ben Mandel has secured the services of Ed Williams to act as Elizabeth Bentley's attorney in anticipation of an attack by the Hennings Committee.

cc - Mr. Boardman

cc - Mr. Belmont

LBN:ptm

(4)

RECORDED-31

INDEXED-31

TX

134-435-146

JUN 7 1955

3P  
JUN 7 1955



# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, Albany

DATE: June 3, 1955

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FROM : J. Edgar Hoover, Director, FBI (66-18772)

SUBJECT:

ESPIONAGE AND INTERNAL SECURITY INVESTIGATIONS  
(FULL UTILIZATION OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS  
AND SOURCES OF INFORMATION)

Classified by 6428 3/24/78

ReBulet 5-16-55.

Exempt from GDS, Category 2  
Date of Declassification Indefinite Indefinite

The following changes should be made concerning individuals previously included in this program:

[REDACTED]

(b)(1)

Elizabeth Bentley, referred to in No Number SAC Letter dated 5-4-50, SAC Letters 54-1 and 54-28, and Bulet of 3-21-55, is returning to her home in Madison, Connecticut. Leads to contact her should be directed to New Haven.

cc - 2 - Albuquerque cc - 2 - Houston cc - 2 - Oklahoma City

Anchorage  
Atlanta  
Baltimore  
Birmingham  
Boston  
Buffalo  
Butte  
Charlotte  
Chicago  
Cincinnati  
Cleveland  
Dallas  
Denver  
Detroit  
El Paso  
Honolulu

Indianapolis  
Kansas City  
Knoxville  
Little Rock  
Los Angeles  
Louisville  
Memphis  
Miami  
Milwaukee  
Minneapolis  
Mobile  
Newark  
New Haven  
New Orleans  
New York City  
Norfolk

Omaha  
Philadelphia  
Phoenix  
Pittsburgh  
Portland  
Richmond  
St. Louis  
Salt Lake City  
San Antonio  
San Diego  
San Francisco  
San Juan  
Savannah  
Seattle  
Springfield  
Washington Field

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF CLASSIFICATION

DATE 3/1/78 EWH/low

YELLOW  
DUPLICATE  
JUN 7 1955  
MAILED

134-455 ✓  
NOT RECORDED  
15 JUN 10 1955

60 JUN 15 1955

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL FILED IN

Letter to Albany  
RE: ESPIONAGE AND INTERNAL SECURITY INVESTIGATIONS  
(FULL UTILIZATION OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS  
AND SOURCES OF INFORMATION)

Contacts with Robert Cuse, referred to in  
SAC Letter 54-28, have become increasingly infrequent,  
and he should be deleted. J

[REDACTED] referred to in SAC Letters 53-27  
and 53-61, has been discontinued as symbol for Kenneth (b)(7)(D)  
Eckert who should now be listed by name. Information  
received from Eckert may be credited to him without  
use of temporary symbol. J

[REDACTED] (b)(1)  
C

Information received from Hede Massing, referred  
to in No Number SAC Letter dated 5-4-50 and SAC Letter  
54-63, may be credited to her by name. J

William Odell Nowell, referred to in No Number  
SAC Letters dated 5-4-50 and 10-30-50, died 5-24-55 and  
should be deleted. J

[REDACTED] (b)(1)  
C

CONFIDENTIAL

Letter to Albany

RE: ESPIONAGE AND INTERNAL SECURITY INVESTIGATIONS  
(FULL UTILIZATION OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS  
AND SOURCES OF INFORMATION)

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

C (b)(1)  
C

The identities of the following should continue  
to be protected by temporary symbol in spite of past  
public testimony:

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

C (b)(1)  
C

If prepared, Index cards concerning the above-  
mentioned individuals should be amended accordingly.

- 3 -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (134-435)

DATE: 5/25/55

FROM : SAC, NEW ORLEANS (134-89)

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY  
CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE

On May 16, 1955 Miss BENTLEY advised that she had just received from the Internal Security Subcommittee, Washington, D. C., a transcript of a statement made by WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR to the International Organizations Employees Loyalty Board on March 28, 1955.

Miss BENTLEY stated that she has hurriedly scanned the document which consists of approximately 50 pages of material and that 95% of the material contained in this statement is entirely false and that the other 5% is very much distorted. She stated that the Internal Security Subcommittee has requested her to answer in writing the allegations made in the statement.

Miss BENTLEY stated that she does not at the present time have sufficient time to scrutinize the statement thoroughly enough to answer the allegations relating that it would take her approximately two or three weeks to give her answer, and also related that some of the information relates to previous testimony about her before various committees, which testimony she does not have access to at the present time.

Miss BENTLEY stated that unless the Bureau had reasons to the contrary, she did not believe that she would give a written answer to the allegations since she does not desire to get into any controversy with WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR. She related that if the Subcommittee subpoenaed her, that she would then answer any questions asked by the Committee.

The Bureau is requested to advise the New Orleans Office immediately as to whether or not they have any reason for BENTLEY to answer the allegations or not to answer them.

REGISTERED MAIL

JBH:dfs

(3)

65 JUN 16 1955

RECORDED-88

134-435-147

2 MAY 27 1955

Memo 6-6-55-697

EXP. PROC.

Miss BENTLEY stated that if the Bureau did desire that she answer the allegations, she would like to discuss the matter with a Bureau official in either Washington or New York on her way to Connecticut after June 1, 1955. She stated that she would not have time to give this matter any attention prior to that time.



mont  
sphere

The Attorney General (orig. & 1)

June 9, 1955

Director, FBI

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY  
SECURITY INFORMANT

Reference is made to my memorandum to you, dated May 24, 1955, in which I outlined the difficulties Elizabeth Bentley has been having with the Internal Revenue Service relative to income from her book. I pointed out she had spread this income over a period of three to four years and the Internal Revenue Service had demanded that she pay \$1,800 or it will institute proceedings against her.

Elizabeth Bentley telephonically advised a representative of this Bureau on the evening of June 7, 1955, that she has learned the Internal Revenue Service in Louisiana, on June 8, 1955, attached her bank account in Louisiana. She indicated she was greatly disturbed by this action and felt it was an arbitrary action taken by elements in the Government which are trying to destroy her. She stated it appeared to be more than a coincidence that Harvey Matusow has attacked her, William Henry Taylor has attacked her, and now the Internal Revenue Service in Louisiana is taking this action. She said she had told the Internal Revenue representative in Louisiana that she intended to consult her attorney on the matter, but he ignored her request for a delay. She said she had been trying to reach her attorney, Judge Robert Morris, in New York, but had been unsuccessful. She indicated she is considering calling the newspapers and informing them of this action against her. She alluded to the fact that President Eisenhower was allowed to spread the income from his book over a period of years and she knows of no difference in the two situations.

Miss Bentley claims that she is broke, does not even have money with which to live, and it will be necessary for her to take immediate action in this matter. She requested that the matter be brought to your attention as she felt she had been of service to this Government and there had been no need for any arbitrary action.

COMM - FBI  
JUN 10 1955  
MAILED 31

RECEIVED  
JUN 10 10 25 AM '55

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Boardman \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Parsons \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

134-435-148  
RECORDED  
1 - Assistant Attorney General  
William F. Tompkins  
1 - William P. Rogers  
Deputy Attorney General

NOTE:

See cover memo from Belmont to Boardman, 6/8/55, RJL: same caption.

JUN 18 1955

WHB  
R

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 10 1955

TELETYPE

Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Sizoo  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tel. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

WASH 20 FROM NEW YORK 10 8-47 PM  
DIRECTOR URGENT

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY, ESP DASH R. BUFILE ONE THIRTYFOUR DASH FOUR  
THREE FIVE. BUREAU ATTENTION DIRECTED TO AP DISPATCH BEARING DATE-  
LINE OPELOUSAS, LA., JUNE NINE LAST, APPEARING IN HERALD TRIBUNE  
INSTANT DATE, THAT FEDERAL INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE HAD FILED TAX  
LIEN AGAINST ELIZABETH BENTLEY FOR THREE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED  
NINETY DOLLARS IN UNPAID TAXES IN NINETEEN FIFTYONE. THIS AMOUNT  
BELIEVED TO BE TAXES ON PROCEEDS FROM BENTLEY'S BOOK, "OUT OF BONDAGE."  
KELLY

NEW ORLEANS ADVISED

JUN 16 1955

Belmont

cc Mr. Belmont

5-97

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 10 1935

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont ☒ \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

WASH 20 FROM NEW YORK 10 8-47 PM

DIRECTOR URGENT

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY, ESP DASH R. BUFILE ONE THIRTYFOUR DASH FOUR  
THREE FIVE. BUREAU ATTENTION DIRECTED TO AP DISPATCH BEARING DATE-  
LINE OPELOUSAS, LA., JUNE NINE LAST, APPEARING IN HERALD TRIBUNE  
INSTANT DATE, THAT FEDERAL INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE HAD FILED TAX  
LIEN AGAINST ELIZABETH BENTLEY FOR THREE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED  
NINETY DOLLARS IN UNPAID TAXES IN NINETEEN FIFTYONE. THIS AMOUNT  
BELIEVED TO BE TAXES ON PROCEEDS FROM BENTLEYS BOOK, "OUT OF BONDAGE,"  
KELLY

NEW ORLEANS ADVISED

HLD

ORIGINAL DIRECTOR

*Belmont*

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson

FROM : L. B. Nichols

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH BENTLEY  
SECURITY INFORMANT

DATE: June 8, 1955

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Robert Morris called from New York. Elizabeth Bentley saw him yesterday. The Internal Revenue levied on her bank account in New Orleans and tied up her total savings which consisted of \$287.00. Morris had previously talked to William Rogers about this and accordingly called Rogers again today. Rogers thought the matter had been taken care of as he had talked to the General Counsel of Internal Revenue. Morris told him that Elizabeth Bentley was fighting mad over the treatment which was rather summary and a chance was not given to work the matter out on a long-range basis; that the income tax now being claimed grew out of her reporting income over a two or three year period on the advice of counsel whereas the Treasury has ruled the income should be reported in one year. Morris told Rogers that the country owes a great deal to Bentley; that she had done more to focus attention on Communists in the government than anyone else other than Whittaker Chambers and that in her present frame of mind she wanted to make a public statement. Rogers told Morris to keep her quiet, that he would contact Internal Revenue and see what could be worked out.

cc: Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Belmont

LBN:MM  
(4)

RECORDED-59

134-435-150 134-435

1955

65 JUN 14 1955

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : L.V. Boardman *flw*

DATE: June 8, 1955

FROM : A.H. Belmont *6-10-55*SUBJECT: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY  
SECURITY INFORMANT

Tolson	
Boardman	
Nichols	
Belmont	
Mohr	
Parsons	
Rosen	
Tamm	
Sizoo	
Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Holloman	
Gandy	

You may recall that Judge Robert Morris on 5/19/55 informed Mr. Nichols that the Internal Revenue Service had delivered an ultimatum to Elizabeth Bentley that unless she pays \$1800 in income taxes they will institute proceedings against her. This is income from Bentley's book which she spread over a 3-4-years' period, and the Internal Revenue Service has ruled against her. We directed a letter to the Attorney General with a copy to AAG Tompkins re this matter on 5/24/55.

Bentley, who is now in Madison, Connecticut, telephonically contacted Supervisor R.J. Lamphere on the evening of 6/7/55 and said she had just learned her bank account in Louisiana had been attached by Internal Revenue Service on 6/2/55. Bentley was very much disturbed over this matter. She was emotional and demanded immediate steps be taken in her behalf. It was necessary to rather forcefully bring to her attention that this matter was one outside the Bureau's jurisdiction and the only step we would consider taking would be to bring the facts to the attention of the Dept. of Justice. She made reference to the Long political machine in Louisiana and to the fact she felt Internal Revenue Service in Louisiana was possibly part of this clique. She alluded to the fact that President Eisenhower was allowed to spread the income from his book over a period of years. She indicated she was considering calling in the newspaper reporters and giving them the story. It was suggested to her that it might be in her interest, before taking any action, to contact her attorney. She said she had been trying to reach Judge Robert Morris in NYC, who has promised

134-435

Enclosure *sent 6-10-55*

CC: Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Branigan  
Mr. Lamphere

EX-126

JUN 14 1955

RJL:em

JUN 20 1955



Memorandum for Mr. Boardman

to represent her in this matter, but could not reach him. She said something would have to be done in this matter as she does not have any money and will not even be able to live. She felt it was more than a coincidence that Harvey Matusow, William Henry Taylor and others are attacking her and now the Internal Revenue Service is acting against her. She stated she intends to fight back. She rambled on at considerable length and it was again necessary to point out to her that there was no direct action the Bureau could or would take in the matter.

ROGERS AND.

ACTION: There is attached a memorandum to the Attorney General, with copy to AAG Tompkins, setting forth statements made by Bentley in connection with this matter.

✓ C-142

✓ [Handwritten signature]

WABar  
PT

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

AIRTEL

Transmit the following ~~teletype~~ message to:

FBI, NEW ORLEANS (134-89) 6/11/55

DIRECTOR, FBI (134-435) AIRMAIL REGISTERED

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY  
SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Re NY teletype 6/10/55, entitled "ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY, ESPIONAGE - R." Same directed Bureau's attention to AP Dispatch bearing date line Opelousas, La., June 9 last, appearing in Herald Tribune instant date, that Federal Internal Revenue Service had filed tax lien against ELIZABETH BENTLEY for \$3,790.00 in unpaid taxes in 1951; that this amount believed to be taxes on proceeds from BENTLEY's book "Out of Bondage."

New Orleans letter 6/3/55 to Director advised that on May 31, 1955, ELIZABETH BENTLEY departed from Lafayette, La., enroute to her home in Madison, Connecticut, where she should arrive around June 8, 1955. Newspaper clippings in local press re filing tax lien ~~was~~ being furnished to the Bureau, however, no additional action being taken in this matter at New Orleans until so instructed by the Bureau.

CHILES

END

RFC:js  
(9)

1 cc: NEW HAVEN (Info.) (AM-REGISTERED)  
NEW YORK (Info.) (AM-REGISTERED) RECORDED.  
NEWARK (Info.) (AM-REGISTERED)  
DETROIT (Info.) (AM-REGISTERED)  
WFO (Info.) (AM-REGISTERED)

Mr. Belmont

EX-126 34-435-152  
10 JUN 13 1955

71 JUN 20 1955  
Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : L. V. Boardman

DATE: June 6, 1955

FROM : A. H. Belmont

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH BENTLEY  
SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Tolson	
Boardman	
Belmont	
Mohr	
Parsons	
Rosen	
Tamm	
Sizoo	
Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Holloman	
Gandy	

SYNOPSIS:

Elizabeth Bentley, who was on her way to Madison, Connecticut, from her teaching position in Louisiana, telephonically contacted Supervisor R.J. Lamphere on the evening of 6/4/55 and asked to be interviewed on the morning of 6/5/55.

Bentley, in interview, indicated she is very concerned with the recent charges that have been made against her by Harvey Matusow and William Henry Taylor. She thinks someone should do something to protect her but said she fully recognized this was not the FBI's function. She said she had been in touch with Ben Mandel of the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee and he had told her there was a possibility that a committee headed by Senator Thomas C. Hennings on Constitutional Liberties would take up the Taylor charges. She said she agreed with Mandel that it would be better if the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee handled the matter and a committee friendly to Taylor would be bad. Mandel wanted her to meet with Edward Bennett Williams, the attorney who has represented Senator McCarthy. According to Mandel, Williams is willing to represent Bentley without charge. Bentley said she felt this tie-in with McCarthy's attorney would not be wise. She was told this, of course, was a matter in which the Bureau would not in any way counsel her and she would have to make her own decision. She said at the meeting she had scheduled with Mandel and Williams on 6/5/55 she would tell them she wanted to talk to Judge Robert Morris in New York City before making any decision.

134-495

Enclosure sent 6-8-55

RECORDED-59

134-435-153

CC: 65-56402 (N.G. Silvermaster)

100-370862 (W.H. Taylor)

Mr. Boardman

Mr. Belmont

Mr. Branigan

Mr. Lamphere

RJL:em

(7)

JUN 21 1955

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

An effort was made to interview Bentley concerning a number of the charges by Taylor in his lengthy brief dated 9/28/55. Bentley indicated that while a copy of the charges made by Taylor had been made available to her by the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee, she had been very busy winding up her school year and had not wanted to go over these charges and had only scanned the material. When specific items were brought up, on most items she claimed she had not been inconsistent, claiming errors in transcriptions by congressional committees and statements made by representatives of congressional committees through questions had misled her. Her comments on these specific items are being covered in the details of this memorandum. Bentley was in a somewhat emotional state, claimed to be very tired and obviously did not want to get down to the facts. She was not pressed in view of this attitude and in order to avoid any possible subsequent claims being made that we were coaching her with respect to Taylor's charges.

ACTION: 1) There is attached a memorandum to Assistant Attorney General Tompkins of the Internal Security Division of the Department, giving him the benefit of some of the statements made by Bentley, in view of the fact that Tompkins' division is believed to be making an analysis of the Taylor charges.

2) The foregoing is for your information.

V      m      JH  
LJB

### DETAILS:

The following represents the comments Bentley made on various of the charges contained in the brief filed by William Henry Taylor before the International Organizations Employees Loyalty Board on 3/28/55:

#### Bentley Claimed Soviets Interested in RDX.

Taylor charged Bentley testified in 1949 that the Soviets sought information and were interested in RDX. Taylor claims Bentley probably lifted this story from the newspapers as there was nothing secret about RDX.

Bentley states her only answer to this is that she was requested to obtain information on RDX. This indicated to her that the Soviets were interested in this information.

#### Nationality Origin of U.S. Government Officials.

It is charged that in 1949 Bentley testified some 40 to 50 people who worked for the U.S. Government were giving her information. She said practically all of these people were Communists and all were native-born citizens except two, the Silvermasters. Taylor charges ten persons named by Bentley were not native-born Americans.

Bentley states that she may have been slightly inconsistent on this point, but said when she testified she had not been thinking of persons such as Lauchlin Currie and Solomon Greenberg as naturalized citizens when she made the statement. She claimed she had not known that William Taylor was not native-born.

#### The Ovakimian Photograph.

In her book, Bentley wrote that in May, 1941, Golos showed her an article and a photograph in the "New York Times" which stated a Russian engineer by the name of Ovakimian had been charged by the FBI with espionage. Taylor points out the "New York Times" did not contain a photograph of Ovakimian and, as a matter of fact, our check with other New York newspapers has failed to reflect any photograph of Ovakimian appeared in the press.



Bentley states all she knows is that Golos came to her with a newspaper and told her a photograph of Ovakimian was in the paper. She states she did not see the photograph, but assumed Golos was telling her the truth.

#### The Doolittle Raid on Tokyo.

Bentley testified before a Senate committee in 1949 that she received information from Ullmann on B-29's. At one point, she was asked whether she received information on the Doolittle raid and she said, "Yes," and the information was obtained from Ullmann.

Bentley at first claimed she did not understand what charge was being made here and when it was pointed out to her that the Doolittle raid occurred in April, 1942, and was made with B-25's and not with B-29's, she pointed out that any error made by her in this instance was caused by the questioning and that she had been talking about B-29's and raids made in the Pacific with B-29's and when one of the questioners spoke of the Doolittle raid, she must have assumed that it was a B-29 raid.

#### D-Day.

It is charged that Bentley has testified she knew in advance the date of D-Day and that she learned this information from Ullmann. Taylor quotes from General Eisenhower's book and other sources that D-Day was not known to General Eisenhower in advance and, therefore, could not have been known to others.

Bentley insists that her testimony on this matter is correct and that she learned from Ullmann at least four days in advance the scheduled date for D-Day. She said it was her understanding that Ullmann won a bet on this and while he did not get the date exactly, he was within one day of D-Day and, therefore, collected on the bet.

#### Earl Browder and Espionage.

Taylor charged that Bentley has told different versions of the origin of the Silvermaster group in July, 1941, and has pointed out Golos told her he had received from Earl Browder the name of a man interested in getting help to

Russia. She testified this person was Nathan Gregory Silvermaster. Taylor points out that Browder was in prison in July, 1941, and, therefore, could not possibly have told Golos the name of Silvermaster.

Bentley states this charge is ridiculous and she is at a loss to understand why people do not understand that Browder's information was given to Golos much earlier than July, 1941, and that Silvermaster had been told to lie low and to get his group in readiness at an earlier date.

In connection with this same charge, it is also alleged that Bentley obtained data from the Silvermaster group on exposed but undeveloped film and yet she says she furnished some of this information to Earl Browder. It is charged Bentley has been inconsistent in this.

Bentley also claims this charge is ridiculous. She states that not all information she obtained from the Silvermaster group was put on film and even when the data was put on film, she was told the contents of the information as occasionally the photography was not good and it had been necessary for the Soviets to come back to her to have the documents again photographed by the Silvermaster group. Bentley advised she was obtaining data from others than the Silvermaster group which was also made available to Browder.

When Did Miss Bentley First Advise the FBI of Her Activities?

Taylor charges Bentley has testified she told the FBI her story in New Haven on 8/21/45 or 8/22/45 and yet the FBI has given this date as 11/7/45. Taylor claims this makes a great deal of difference inasmuch as Bentley had a meeting with Anatole Gromov 10/17/45 and she has claimed this was under instructions of the FBI.

Bentley claims she is right on this point. She states she went in to the New Haven office in August, 1945, and told an agent about Peter Heller, a man she suspected might be an FBI agent. She said the agent to whom she talked was most noncommittal and, accordingly, she did not furnish him any detailed information. The agent did tell her the matter would be referred to the NY office and, after a lapse of some time,

she received a letter asking her to contact the NY office. She then had difficulty in making contact with the agent who was handling the matter but states she did talk to him in either September or October, 1945. Bentley claims in addition to telling this agent about the Peter Heller matter, she also told this agent that she had a meeting forthcoming with one of her contacts and the agent told her to go ahead and carry out the meeting.

Our records reflect Bentley did not tell us about espionage matters until 11/7/45. We are making a further check of our files on this matter. - Review Reflects Following SERIALS in 65-56402 are pertinent 3372, 3399, 3414, 3466, 3506 3559.

Allegations Concerning Bentley's Being Awarded the Order of the Red Star.

Taylor charges Bentley's book differs from her public testimony as to when Gromou told her she had been awarded the Order of the Red Star. Bentley states that her book is incorrect on this point and had been changed by her publisher in order to make the events appear more graphic and to have more human interest. She says her testimony on this point is correct.

Bentley Re the Last Name of Bela Gold.

In 1948 Bentley named a William Gold and his wife, Sonia Gold, and one year later in testimony gave the names as Bela Gold and Sonia Gold. Bentley claims that she had heard Bela Gold's name given as Bill Gold and she, therefore, assumed his first name was William. She claims she thought she testified the individual's name was Bill Gold and she was somewhat doubtful that she ever gave it as Wm. Gold until her attention was directed to her testimony in 1948.

Discrepancy in Name of U.S. Service and Shipping Corporation.

It was pointed out by Taylor that the name of this corporation was the U.S. Service and Shipping Corporation and yet Bentley gave the name as the United States Service and Shipping Corporation. Bentley comments that she never would have given this name as the United States Service and Shipping Corporation and that any error in connection with this



Boardman  
Belmont  
Mr. Branigan

Assistant Attorney General (orig. & 1)  
William F. Tompkins

June 9, 1955  
Mr. Lamphere

Director, FBI

WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR  
ESPIONAGE - R

DECLASSIFIED BY 6428

ON 2/24/78

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF DECLASSIFICATION  
DATE 3/11/78 BY SP-1

Reference is made to my memorandum to you, dated May 27, 1955, with which I furnished you a Photostat of the brief filed by William Henry Taylor on March 28, 1955, with the International Organizations Employees Loyalty Board.

Elizabeth Bentley was interviewed June 3, 1955, at which time she was in Washington en route to Madison, Connecticut, from her teaching position in Louisiana. With respect to the various charges made by Taylor, Bentley said she had been very busy and while she had a copy of the charges, she had not had time to go over them in any detail. She indicated she was considerably disturbed over these charges and felt many of them were false.

The following represents Miss Bentley's answers to some of these charges:

Bentley Claimed Soviets Interested in RDX

Taylor charged Bentley testified in 1949 that the Soviets sought information and were interested in RDX. Taylor claims Bentley probably lifted this story from the newspapers as there was nothing secret about RDX.

Bentley states her only answer to this is that she was requested to obtain information on RDX. This indicated to her that the Soviets were interested in this information.

Nationality Origin of U. S. Government Officials

NOT RECORDED

It is charged that in 1949 Bentley was given some 40 to 50 people who worked for the United States Government were giving her information. She said practically all of these people were Communists and all were native-born citizens except two, the Silvermasters. Taylor charges ten persons named by Bentley were not Americans.

RJL:em 65-56402 (Silvermasters)

See cover memo Belmont to Boardman captioned "Elizabeth Bentley, Source of Info," 6/6/55, RJL:em

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JUN 9 1955  
MAILED

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

JUN 17 1955

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Bentley states that she may have been slightly inconsistent on this point, but said when she testified she had not been thinking of persons such as Lauchlin Currie and Solomon Greenberg as naturalized citizens when she made the statement. She claimed she had not known that William Taylor was not native-born.

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In her book, Bentley wrote that in May, 1941, Golos showed her an article and a photograph in the "New York Times" which stated a Russian engineer by the name of Ovakimian had been charged by the FBI with espionage. Taylor points out the "New York Times" did not contain a photograph of Ovakimian and, as a matter of fact, our check with other New York newspapers has failed to reflect any photograph of Ovakimian appeared in the press.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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Being Awarded the Order of the Red Star

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With respect to the foregoing, Bentley claims she had heard Bela Gold's name given as Bill Gold and, therefore, assumed his first name was William.

Discrepancy in Name of U. S. Service  
and Shipping Corporation

It was pointed out by Taylor that the name of this corporation was the U. S. Service and Shipping Corporation and yet Bentley gave the name as the United States Service and Shipping Corporation. Bentley comments that she never would have given this name as the United States Service and Shipping Corporation and that any error in connection with this matter would have been an error in transcription by a stenographer because she, Bentley, knew that the name United States Service and Shipping Corporation could not have been used by the corporation as another company was using that name.

Bentley Said Courses on American Government  
Are Not Taught at Columbia University

Taylor claimed Bentley in 1948 said they did not have courses at Columbia University on American Government.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Bentley said this is another example of an error in transcription. She said she undoubtedly testified she did not "take" courses in American Government at Columbia University, but that it would have been ridiculous to have testified they did not teach such courses. Bentley said often she talks rather fast, making it difficult for a stenographer to take her testimony.

Bentley's Statement Concerning Whittaker Chambers

Taylor claims Bentley named Whittaker Chambers as a member of the Perlo group and yet Bentley did not know Chambers and the latter ceased Communist activities in 1939.

Bentley was furnished her exact testimony on this matter where, in speaking of Harold Glasser, she said, "He was a member of what we called the Perlo ring.....and he passed on information via Mr. Perlo, Mr. Chambers and some of the other members of the group." On reading this testimony, Bentley said there was some error in transcription; that she would never have named Chambers as a member of the Perlo group. She said she must have named one of the other members of the Perlo group, such as Kramer, and the stenographer got it down wrong.

\* \* \* \* \*

The foregoing is furnished to you for your information in connection with any analysis you may be making of the charges made by William Henry Taylor.

100-370362

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson

FROM : L. B. Nichols *LBN*

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH BENTLEY

DATE: June 9, 1955

Tolson ☒

Boardman ☒

Nichols ☒

Belmont ☒

Mohr ☒

Parsons ☒

Rosen ☒

Tamm ☒

Sizoo ☒

Winterrowd ☒

Tele. Room ☒

Holloman ☒

Gandy ☒

George Sokolsky advised me this morning that he was very much disturbed over the action of Internal Revenue proceeding against Elizabeth Bentley; that he was personally calling T. Coleman Andrews to see what could be worked out; that Elizabeth Bentley is penniless and if she does owe a large income tax bill which is in arrears then he thinks that it is incumbent upon a few people like himself to raise the money and pay it off in view of the contributions Elizabeth Bentley has made.

I told George that this, of course, was a matter that was wholly out of our control and there was nothing we could do about the matter. George thoroughly understood this. George incidentally advised me that Ben Mandel had been instrumental in raising \$1200. to send to Paul Crouch who was in bad shape in a Honolulu hospital.

cc - Mr. Boardman

cc - Mr. Belmont

LBN:ptm  
(4)

• ADDENDUM: LBN:arm 6/9/55. George Sokolsky subsequently informed me that he had talked to T. Coleman Andrews who did not know of the Elizabeth Bentley action. He replied that she had probably not been cooperative. Sokolsky replied this was probably true but that the kind of publicity Andrews would get would do more harm than good. Andrews further commented that it was even more important because the action against Bentley would hurt "our cause," meaning the anti-Communist cause. It is noted that UP ticker carried an item coming out of Opelousas, Louisiana, on the afternoon of June 9, 1955,

RECORDED-58

134-435-154

EX-122

JUN 10 1955

60 JUN 22 1955

RECORDED COPY FILED IN

Memorandum to Mr. Tolson from L. B. Nichols  
RE: ELIZABETH BENTLEY

which stated as follows: "The Federal Government has filed a \$3,790 tax lien against Elizabeth Bentley, self-confessed former courier for a Communist spy ring in New York and Washington, it was learned.

"According to Records in the Clerk of Court's Office, the lien was slapped on the one-time star witness for Congressional investigating committees for unpaid taxes in 1951.

"Miss Bentley, a teacher at Sacred Heart College in Grand Coteau south of here, was not available for comment. The college reported she does not teach during the summer months."

✓ 1-23



Office Memorandum

UNITED STATES

GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson *W. D. 2*  
FROM : L. B. Nichols *LBN*  
SUBJECT: ELIZABETH BENTLEY

DATE: 6/14/55

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Bob Morris informed me that William Rogers had called him and apologized for the manner in which the Elizabeth Bentley case was handled; that apparently everybody got worried at Internal Revenue but the people in the field doing the work, however, Internal Revenue will be reasonable and will negotiate the matter. *VB*

Bob stated that he had talked to Miss Bentley; that she was somewhat demanding, however, she is willing to negotiate.

George Sokolsky told me that it would probably be necessary for the group in New York to raise sufficient funds to take care of Miss Bentley's income tax delinquencies.

cc - Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Belmont

LBN:fc  
(4)

RECORDED - 67

134-435-155

(5-21)

JUN 27 1955

F233

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Jensen

Assistant Attorney General (orig. & 1)  
William F. Tompkins

June 22, 1955

Director, FBI

51698

WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR  
ESPIONAGE - R

Reference is made to your memorandum dated  
May 24, 1955, in this matter.

In accordance with your request, there is attached  
a Photostat of the pretrial examination of Elizabeth T.  
Bentley taken in New York City on September 7, 1949, in  
connection with Civil Action Number 47-534. It will be noted  
the Photostat consists of two sections covering the morning  
and afternoon sessions of the examination.

100-370362

Inclosures (2)

RGJ:en (8)

NOTE: Dept. in memo requested copies of certain documents  
referred to by Taylor in his statement before the  
International Organizations Employees Loyalty Board in March,  
1955. Document being forwarded is last of 4 documents requested  
by Dept. Other documents requested by Dept. were previously  
forwarded.

CC- 134-435 (Bentley)

134-435 - ✓  
NOT RECORDED  
141 JUL 6 1955

DECLASSIFIED BY 6428

ON 2/24/78

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JUN 22 1955  
MAILED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF

DATE 2/17/78 EWR/jat

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

65 JUL 8 1955

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. L. V. BOARDMAN *lv*

DATE: June 24, 1955

FROM : MR. A. H. BELMONT *ahb*SUBJECT: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY  
SECURITY INFORMANT

Tolson	_____
Boardman	_____
Nichols	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Parsons	_____
Rosen	_____
Tamm	_____
Sizoo	_____
Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holloman	_____
Gandy	_____

Reference is made to my memorandum of June 8, 1955, concerning the income tax difficulties of Bentley with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and your telephone call of June 23, 1955, requesting that Liaison make a discreet inquiry at IRS to determine if someone with that Service was pushing this action against Bentley.

Bentley's tax situation is the result of a routine tax examination and assessment handled by the Audit Division of the New York office of IRS. The additional tax assessment of \$3,790 was routinely referred to the Collection Division, New York office of IRS, and subsequently referred to the Dallas Regional Office of IRS for collection by the New Orleans, Louisiana, District Office. This is a type of matter that is handled at a field level with no record being maintained at the national office of IRS.

On June 23, 1955, our Liaison Representative discussed this matter with John Potts Barnes, Chief Counsel, IRS. Barnes advised that Deputy Attorney General Rogers called David Kendall, Chief Counsel, Treasury Department, several weeks ago concerning the Bentley matter. Kendall in turn called Barnes and instructed him to contact the Regional Commissioner, Dallas, for the purpose of having the Bentley matter handled quietly and to make every effort to be of assistance to Bentley concerning this matter. According to Barnes, the instructions somewhere between the Regional Commissioner and the District Director at New Orleans became confused. Barnes pointed out that Bentley, when approached by collection agents, New Orleans, refused to talk to the agents. Thereupon, the agents handled the item "routinely" by attaching Bentley's bank account.

Barnes further advised that Deputy Attorney General Rogers, subsequent to the above action, has been in touch with Commissioner T. Coleman Andrews concerning the Bentley situation; that Andrews returned yesterday (June 23, 1955)

JJD:sjb  
(7)

RECORDED-89

124-435-156  
2 JUN 27 1955

- 1 - Mr. Nichols
- 1 - Mr. Boardman
- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. L. J. Lamson
- 1 - Liaison Section
- 1 - Mr. Daunt

INT-SEC  
5-

Memo to Mr. Boardman  
from Mr. Belmont

RE: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY  
SECURITY INFORMANT

from a New York trip during which Andrews had planned to see George Sokolsky, the noted newspaper columnist, concerning Bentley's tax difficulties. Barnes stated that Andrews has instructed that Bentley should be interviewed by an IRS representative who has tact and diplomacy and that her difficulties should be discussed in detail with her (1) for the purpose of giving her an opportunity to pay the tax assessment in installments and (2) to re-examine Bentley's tax returns to determine whether the additional assessment is justified. Barnes pointed out that Andrews is now handling this matter and that he is awaiting additional instructions from Andrews as a result of the latter's discussion with George Sokolsky.

Barnes concluded by stating that it was unfortunate that the matter had gotten out of control as he was sure that the Commissioner and he wanted to give every possible assistance within the law to Bentley in this instance.

ACTION:

*DR* Liaison will follow with IRS.

*✓* *st* *VK*

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Sizoo	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

TO :

DIRECTOR, FBI (134-435)

DATE: June 23, 1955

FROM :

SAC, NEW HAVEN (134-40)

SUBJECT :

ELIZABETH BENTLEY  
CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE

ATTENTION: ASST. DIRECTOR

On June 21, 1955 Miss BENTLEY was interviewed by SAs SALVATORE P. DUCIBELLA and CHARLES E. SANDALL at her summer residence, the home of Mrs. GEORGE POIROT, Lovers Lane, North Madison, Connecticut in connection with several espionage investigations. At the conclusion of the interview, Miss BENTLEY discussed in considerable detail her present difficulty with the Internal Revenue Service over alleged back taxes in the amount of some \$3,700. Her attitude toward efforts of that Service to collect the back taxes is such that I feel you should be apprised of her remarks made to the interviewing Agents.

Miss BENTLEY advised that she has discussed her tax problem with Supervisor ROBERT LANPHERE of the Bureau and also talked with Assistant to the Director L.B. NICHOLS on her way to Connecticut from Louisiana on or about June 5, 1955. Therefore, certain of her remarks made to the interviewing Agents will possibly be repetitious but are included herein in the event she did not make these remarks to the above Bureau representatives.

Miss BENTLEY stated that she was notified by the Internal Revenue Bureau in about 1952 that she had not fully paid income taxes for the year 1951 and owed approximately \$3,700. She took this claim up with her attorney, ROBERT MORRIS, former counsel for the House Committee on Un-American Activities, now located in New York City. He advised her that the claim would be taken care of and that she should sit tight. The following year, a similar demand was submitted by the Internal Revenue Service and she received the same advice from her attorney. Several weeks ago, a representative of the Internal Revenue Service came to her at Lafayette, Louisiana and demanded a list of her assets. She advised him that she was unable to supply same as her assets were located in Connecticut and that this claim was being handled by her attorney in New York City. She requested that the Internal Revenue Service representative contact her attorney but, according to Miss BENTLEY, this agent was very rude, curt and antagonistic. She advised him that she was in the midst of financial difficulties at the school in which she was teaching and had no time to get the required information or to get the necessary funds to pay the tax claim.

ENCLOSURE

CES:jcb

(5)

REGISTERED MAIL

RECORDED

21 JUN 30 1955

cc: 2 - New Orleans (RM) (Info)

Miss BENTLEY then departed from Lafayette, Louisiana driving North with an elderly woman. After stopping in Washington, D.C. to notify FBI representatives of her tax situation, she arrived in North Madison, Connecticut to find that several checks she had written on her account in Louisiana had been returned by the bank. She was notified by her bank, the Bank of Sunset and Trust Company under date of June 2, 1955 that her account had been charged in the amount of \$280.76 (her balance) and funds delivered to the Director of Internal Revenue as per notice of levy served on the bank that date. She was furnished with a copy of the levy by the Internal Revenue Service dated June 2, 1955 signed by the District Director of Internal Revenue and the Senior Collection Officer (Form 668-A Rev. 1-55).

Miss BENTLEY advised that the action of the Internal Revenue Service has placed her in a most embarrassing position, not only from the standpoint of depriving her of her subsistence during the forthcoming summer months but making it almost impossible to return to Louisiana to resume teaching next Fall. She stated that the fact that the levy on her funds was made public to the newspapers has damaged her reputation in the vicinity of her employment.

Interviewing Agents advised Miss BENTLEY that her tax problems was a matter between her and the Internal Revenue Service and should be worked out by her and her attorney. She understood the Bureau's position in this situation, but stated that she feels that the attack on her through her income tax records has been inspired and directed by some person in the Treasury Department in an effort to eliminate her permanently as a potential government witness. She spoke of the HARRY DEXTER WHITE case as being of great concern to the present Administration and of her importance as a witness in this case. She alluded to the WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR case as one receiving current Administration attention and she feels that someone in the Treasury Department who is in sympathy with TAYLOR is out to get her.

Miss BENTLEY stated that if she is not protected by Government in her present tax situation, she will be forced to "blow the lid off the Administration". She remarked that she had never wrongfully intended to defraud the government out of taxes due it, but had put her financial records annually in the hands of an accountant who assured her that he knew what he was doing. She is willing to settle with the government and pay what taxes are actually due, but she strongly objects to high-handed methods in seizing her meager funds to prevent her from existing. She mentioned that she has never capitalized financially from her assistance to the government as some ex-informers have. She added that she has no assets to speak of at present, as proof that she did not benefit from her cooperative role.



NH 134-40

Miss BENTLEY concluded that she is considering writing to U.S. Senator KARL MUNDT and to Congressman WEBB of Louisiana, with both of whom she has worked and cooperated. This memorandum is being prepared to advise you of Miss BENTLEY's contemplated action in regard to contacting her friends in Congress, in the event you may receive any inquiry from these persons.

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. L. V. BOARDMAN

DATE: June 24, 1955

FROM : MR. A. H. BELMONT

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH BENTLEY  
SOURCE OF INFORMATION  
BuFile 134-435

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*Brinkman*

SAC Joe Casper called from New Haven at 2:30 p.m. today (June 24). He advised he had sent the Bureau a letter on June 23 which furnishes the details of an interview by New Haven Agents with Elizabeth Bentley at North Madison, Connecticut. During this interview, Bentley went into the details of her trouble with the Internal Revenue Service and pointed out that she had discussed her problem with Mr. Nichols and Mr. Lamphere of the Bureau earlier this month. She said she is broke and nothing has been done and that she was thinking in terms of issuing a press release. (The letter from New Haven has not yet been received.)

*Rec'd & attached a*

Casper said that Bentley had just called him, very much excited, and said she is going to give a release to the papers "to blow the lid off the administration." She said that on the one hand she has given cooperation to the Government to the fullest extent possible, while on the other hand the Government, through the Treasury Department, has caused her to lose her job and her reputation.

Casper said that Bentley's excitement is caused by the fact that today she received a letter from the Sister of the Sacred Heart School in Louisiana where she has been employed, asking her to resign because of the adverse publicity to the school resulting from Treasury Department action against Bentley's account. Further, it appears that several checks that Bentley wrote on this account, while she thought it was good, have "bounced" because of the attachment. Bentley also received in the mail a request to appear before the William Henry Taylor hearing on July 13, 1955. This is dated June 15, 1955, and was sent to New Orleans and just reached Bentley. It is signed by T. Paul Fairbanks, Executive Secretary of the

*W*

61 ENCL.

AHB:LL  
(6)

cc--Mr. Boardman  
cc--Mr. Nichols  
cc--Mr. Belmont  
cc--Mr. Branigan  
cc--Mr. Lamphere

*6-27-55  
RECORDED - 67*

*134-435-157*

JUN 30 1955

*John T. ...*

Memorandum to  
Mr. L. V. Boardman

6/24/55

Re: ELIZABETH BENTLEY

U. S. Civil Service Commission, International Organization Employees Loyalty Board, Washington, D. C. Bentley said she plans to write to Fairbanks and tell him she will not testify as she has not had time to prepare nor has she the funds. Casper said Bentley said she is broke.

I talked to Mr. Nichols about this, and we agreed that he should call Judge Morris, who is taking an active interest in this matter. Mr. Nichols will suggest that Judge Morris call Bentley and calm her down, inasmuch as a public release by her will certainly not help her nor her cause. Judge Morris will not indicate that his call is connected in any way with the FBI.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

2:20 PM  
6-25-55  
SAC,  
NY  
10  
Instructions  
28

1. It is recommended that I call SAC Casper and tell him to contact Bentley and advise her that her problem with Internal Revenue Service has been taken up with Internal Revenue at a high level and that Internal Revenue is considering her whole problem sympathetically and that any untoward action on her part would not assist her in her problem.

✓

2. It is recommended further that Casper be authorized to furnish Bentley \$100.00. This would be for value received, inasmuch as we have been interviewing Bentley on a number of occasions and have not paid her for well over a year.

✓

OK.  
S.  
Send memo to  
A. G. & Rogers  
J. H.  
- 2 -

Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Lamphere  
Mr. Schweppe

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

June 27, 1955

134-435-157  
Director, FBI

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY  
SECURITY INFORMANT

DECLASSIFIED BY 6428

ON 2/27/78

Reference is made to our memorandum of May 24, 1955, regarding the recent demands of the Internal Revenue Service that Bentley pay an item in dispute.

This is to advise that on June 24, 1955, Bentley contacted representatives of our New Haven Office and advised them that she was going to issue a press release "to blow the lid off the administration." She indicated that although she had cooperated with the Government to the fullest extent possible, nevertheless the Government, through the Internal Revenue Service, had caused her to lose her job and her reputation.

Bentley's remarks directly above is based on the fact that on June 24, 1955, she received a letter from the Sister of the Sacred Heart School in Louisiana, where she had been employed. This letter requested her to resign because of the adverse publicity to that school caused by the Treasury Department's action against Bentley's bank account. Specifically Bentley's bank, the Bank of Sunset and Trust Company under date of June 2, 1955, charged her account in the amount of \$280.76 (her balance) and delivered those funds to the Director of Internal Revenue as per notice of levy served on that bank on that date. Bentley in the meantime found out that several checks she had written on her account, which she thought was good, had been returned by the bank. Bentley advised that she is willing to settle her tax account with the Government but that she has no assets to speak of at present.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF *classification*

DATE 3/17/78

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Starr \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

HWS:ejf  
(10)

COMM FBI  
JUN 27 1955  
MAILED 31

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SEE NOTE ON PAGE 2.

**Letter to the Attorney General**

Bentley had also received a request to appear before the William Henry Taylor hearing on July 13, 1955. This letter was dated June 15, 1955, and was signed by T. Paul Fairbanks, Executive Secretary of the U. S. Civil Service Commission, International Organizations Employees Loyalty Board, Washington, D. C. Bentley advised she plans to communicate with Fairbanks and inform him she will not testify since she has not had time to prepare to testify and since she has no funds to pay for her travel and expenses.

It is our understanding that the Internal Revenue Service intends to re-examine this entire matter and contemplates further contact with Elizabeth Bentley. In view of the foregoing, Miss Bentley has been informed that she should give this matter extremely careful consideration before compromising her position by any rash action.

The above is being referred to you for your information.

cc - Mr. William P. Rogers  
Deputy Attorney General

cc - Assistant Attorney General  
William F. Tompkins

NOTE: This letter is written in response to the notation of the Director, "Send memo to AG and Rogers," which was noted on the memo of Mr. Belmont to Mr. Boardman dated 6-24-55 bearing this caption and attached hereto.

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (134-435)

DATE 6/24/55

FROM : SAC, WFO (134-690)

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH TERRILL BENTLEY  
SOURCE OF INFORMATION

ReBulet 6/1/55.

One copy each of the following is enclosed for the Bureau and offices receiving this letter (one copy each being retained by WFO):

Senate, Internal Security Subcommittee of the Committee on the Judiciary, Hearings on Institute of Pacific Relations, Part II, August 9, 14, 16, 20, 22, and 23, 1951.

Senate, Internal Security Subcommittee of the Committee on the Judiciary, Hearings on Interlocking Subversion in Government Departments, Part 16, November-December, 1953.

Senate, Internal Security Subcommittee of the Committee on the Judiciary, report on Interlocking Subversion in Government Departments, July 30, 1953.

Concerning copies of other hearings mentioned in reBulet inquiry at Government Printing Office revealed that they are out of print. Contact with appropriate Congressional committees revealed that they have no extra copies. No contact made with Senate Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments (Government Operations Committee) in view of the instructions in Bulet 5/18/55 entitled HARRY LEV, et al, FAG; CONSPIRACY; BRIBERY, that no contact be made without Bureau approval.

The Department of Justice Library has bound copies of the hearings; however, they are presently charged out to Mr. B. S. TAYLOR of the Internal Security Branch, DJ.

A review of the hearings, which WFO has been unable to obtain, at the Library of Congress reveals that BENTLEY's testimony

ENCLOSURES (3) ENCL.

HWB:blm

(6)

- 1-New Haven(Info.)(RM)(Encls.3)
- 1-New Orleans(Info.)(RM)(Encls.3)
- 1-New York(Info.)(RM)(Encls.3)

RECORDED - 8

134-435-158

JUN 29 1955

Memo 1180

65 JUN 1 1955 6/28/55



WFO 134-690

covers approximately 178 pages; therefore, WFO is not making efforts to have the Congressional committees prepare Photostats at this time in view of the expense involved.

WFO believes the Bureau may desire to arrange with DJ to secure desired copies of BENTLEY testimony.

No further action contemplated by WFO at this time.

64 JUL 14 1955

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 27 1955

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_  
MFS

FBI NEW HAVEN

6-27-55

12-40 PM

DIRECTOR URGENT

ATTN. ASST. DIRECTOR A. H. BELMONT

ELIZABETH BENTLEY, CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE. REBU TEL CALL FROM INSPECTOR C. E. HENNRICH TO NHO ON JUNE TWENTYFIVE LAST. BENTLEY CONTACTED SAME EVENING AND ADVISED AS PER BUREAU INSTRUCTIONS AND FUNDS MADE AVAILABLE TO HER. BENTLEY STATED THAT PRIME OBJECTIVE AT THIS TIME IS FOR HER TO OBTAIN REINSTATEMENT OF HER TEACHING POSITION AT COLLEGE OF SACRED HEART AT GRAND COTEAU, LA., AND THAT TO EFFECT SAME IT WAS FIRST ESSENTIAL THAT A RESPONSIBLE GOVT. OFFICIAL OF EITHER TREASURY OR JUSTICE DEPT. IMMEDIATELY CONTACT MOTHER SUPERIOR LAPERE AT SAID COLLEGE TO ADVISE THAT BENTLEY-S TAX STATUS HAD BEEN RESOLVED, EXPRESS REGRETS FOR ADVERSE PUBLICITY TO BENTLEY AND TO THE COLLEGE, WHICH APPEARED IN LA. PRESS AND THUS FORESTALL THE SCHOOL MAKING A NEW APPOINTMENT REPLACING BENTLEY AND STOPPING HER RETURNING TO TEACHING POSITION NEXT FALL. BENTLEY STILL THREATENED TO GO TO THE PRESS, TELL WHAT HAD HAPPENED TO HER AND SEVERELY CRITICIZE THE GOVT. IN AN EFFORT TO SAVE HER REPUTATION. BENTLEY AGREED TO HOLD OFF FOR THE MOMENT BUT EXPRESSED GREAT ANXIETY LEST HER TEACHING POSITION BE FILLED IF THERE IS ANY DELAY IN TAKING ABOVE STEP.

Mr. Belmont  
REC'D - FBI

CASPER 15741  
CO. MR. BELMONT

AND SUPERVISOR  
DOM. INTEL. DIVISION

RECORDED 90  
134-435-159

Tomphie 8-2555

JUL 1 1955

1244P OK B FBI WA MS

108

397



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 27 1955

TELETYPE

Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Sizoo	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

NEW HAVEN 65-27-55 12-40 PM

DIRECTOR URGENT

ATTN: ASST. DIRECTOR A. H. BELMONT

ELIZABETH BENTLEY, CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE. REBU TEL CALL FROM INSPECTOR  
E. HENNRICH TO NHO ON JUNE TWENTYFIVE LAST. BENTLEY CONTACTED SAME  
EVENING AND ADVISED AS PER BUREAU INSTRUCTIONS AND FUNDS MADE AVAILA-  
BLE TO HER. BENTLEY STATED THAT PRIME OBJECTIVE AT THIS TIME IS FOR HER  
TO OBTAIN REINSTATEMENT OF HER TEACHING POSITION AT COLLEGE OF SACRED  
HEART AT GRAND COTEAU, LA., AND THAT TO EFFECT SAME IT WAS FIRST ESSEN-  
TIAL THAT A RESPONSIBLE GOVT. OFFICIAL OF EITHER TREASURY OR JUSTICE  
DEPT. IMMEDIATELY CONTACT MOTHER SUPERIOR LAPERE AT SAID COLLEGE TO  
ADVISE THAT BENTLEY-S TAX STATUS HAD BEEN RESOLVED, EXPRESS REGRETS FOR  
ADVERSE PUBLICITY TO BENTLEY AND TO THE COLLEGE, WHICH APPEARED IN LA.  
PRESS AND THUS FORESTALL THE SCHOOL MAKING A NEW APPOINTMENT REPLACING  
BENTLEY AND STOPPING HER RETURNING TO TEACHING POSITION NEXT FALL.  
BENTLEY STILL THREATENED TO GO TO THE PRESS, TELL WHAT HAD HAPPENED TO  
HER AND SEVERELY CRITICIZE THE GOVT. IN AN EFFORT TO SAVE HER REPU-  
TATION. BENTLEY AGREED TO HOLD OFF FOR THE MOMENT BUT EXPRESSED GREAT  
ANXIETY LEST HER TEACHING POSITION BE FILLED IF THERE IS ANY DELAY IN

TAKING ABOVE STEPS

ORIGINAL DIRECTOR

1240 OK BUREAU

65-27-55 12-40 PM

*Handwritten signatures and initials*

*Schiff*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Lamphere

(original and 1)

The Attorney General

Mr. Schweppe

June 28, 1955

Director, FBI

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY  
SECURITY INFORMANT

DECLASSIFIED BY

ON

6428  
2/27/78

Reference is made to our memorandum of June 27, 1955, which set forth certain information regarding the subject's current problem with the Internal Revenue Service.

For your further information, Miss Bentley advised a representative of this Bureau on June 25, 1955, that her prime objective at this time was to be reinstated in her teaching position at Sacred Heart in Grand Coteau, Louisiana. In order to accomplish the above, according to Bentley, it would be necessary that a responsible Government official of either the Treasury Department or the Justice Department immediately contact Mother Superior Lapere at Sacred Heart. It would be necessary to advise her that Bentley's tax status had been resolved and to express regrets for the adverse publicity which appeared in Louisiana newspapers concerning Bentley and Sacred Heart. Bentley believes such action would forestall the appointment of a replacement in Bentley's position and thereby allow her to return to her teaching position next fall. Miss Bentley again threatened to advise the press of what had happened to her and to severely criticize the Government in its lack of effort to save her reputation. Miss Bentley agreed to withhold any such press release for the moment but expressed great concern since she felt any delay in contacting Mother Superior Lapere might cause Bentley's teaching position to be filled by a replacement.

I thought you would want to be kept advised concerning developments in this matter. We have advised Miss Bentley that her comments have been brought to the attention of appropriate authorities.

134-435

Mr. William P. Rogers

Deputy Attorney General

Assistant Attorney General

William P. Tompkins

NOTE: A cover memo from Belmont to Boardman was prepared by HWS:mip on 6-28-55 in connection with this outgoing.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RECORDED-90  
EX-108  
APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF declassification DATE 3/11/85 ESK/fwb

MAILED 11  
JUN 29 1955  
COMM-FBI

Tolson  
Boardman  
Nichols  
Belmont  
Harbo  
Mohr  
Parsons  
Rosen  
Tamm  
Trotter  
Winters  
Tele. Room  
Holloman  
Gandy

59 JUL 10 1955



# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (134-435)

DATE: 7/6/55

FROM : SAC, WFO (134-690)

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH TERRILL BENTLEY  
SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Re WFO letter 6/24/55 and Bulet 6/28/55.

Photostats of BENTLEY's testimony before the following committees enclosed for the Bureau and offices receiving this letter (copies being retained by WFO):

Senate, Investigations Subcommittee of the Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments, Hearings on Export Policy and Loyalty, July 30, 1948.

House, Committee on Un-American Activities, Hearings regarding Communist Espionage in the United States Government, July 31, August 4-9-10-11-12-13, 1948.

Senate, Subcommittee on Immigration and Naturalization of the Committee on the Judiciary, Hearings on Communist Activities Among Aliens and National Groups, May 13, 1949.

House, Subcommittee of Committee on Un-American Activities, Hearings regarding Communism in the United States Government - Part I, May 6, 1950.

Senate Subcommittee on Government Operations Abroad of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Government Operations, Hearings on Transfer of Occupation Currency Plates - Espionage Phase, October 20 and 21, 1953.

The above photostats were made from the bond copies of the hearings registered in the Department of Justice Library.

HWB: ENCLOSURE BEHIND  
(6)

ENCLOSURES 5

- 1-New Haven (Info) (Encs 5) (RM)
- 1-New Orleans (Info) (Encs 5) (RM)
- 1-New York (Info) (Encs 5) (RM)

12 JUL - 7 1955

50 JUL 19 1955

RECORDED-32 134-435-160



# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson

DATE: June 27, 1955

FROM : L. B. Nichols

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH BENTLEY

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Winters \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

In line with my conversation with Mr. Belmont on Friday afternoon, June 24, 1955, I talked to Bob Morris regarding the possibility of his talking to Elizabeth Bentley and quieting her down on her income tax situation. Morris did not have her number and did not know how to reach her so after checking with our New Haven office, Elizabeth Bentley's telephone number was furnished to him. For future reference, Elizabeth Bentley's telephone number is Circle 5-9502, c/o Miss J. ~~AV~~ Poirot, Madison, Connecticut.

Morris later informed me he did not call Miss Bentley Saturday afternoon as he had had a most unsatisfactory conversation with T. Coleman Andrews, Commissioner of Internal Revenue. Morris stated that William Rogers had told him that he would call Andrews; that everything had been worked out and that he could act as an intermediary. However, when Morris got ahold of Andrews, Andrews spoke as if the Bentley case was news to him; that the first he had heard of the Bentley case was when he spoke to George Sokolsky earlier in the week; that he had checked Internal Revenue and there was no record of intervention. Before Morris could even carry on negotiations with the Internal Revenue, it would be necessary for him to have power of attorney which would be a matter of record in Internal Revenue. Morris stated he was dumbfounded so he merely recounted to Andrews his conversations with William Rogers and the instructions Rogers had given to him, and he told Andrews that he, Morris, had even been given the name of the Counsel in Internal Revenue who would carry on the negotiations.

Morris further stated he later talked to Mr. Rogers who told him that Andrews was resentful that the matter regarding Elizabeth Bentley had not been taken up with him first, and Rogers was trying to work out something further.

Morris further stated that Elizabeth Bentley had called him over the weekend and that he had told her that he was coming to Washington on Wednesday to personally look into the matter.

Morris told me that in his conversation with Rogers it was agreed that they should endeavor to get Internal Revenue to put out a story on a local basis in the South that the filing of the lien was all a mistake.

cc: Mr. Boardman

Mr. Belmont

LBN:arm (5)

RECORDED - 39

INDEXED-39

63 JUL 12 1955

1955

134-435-161  
1955  
JUL 12 1955  
JUL 12 1955

Memorandum to Mr. Tolson from L. B. Nichols  
RE: ELIZABETH BENTLEY

While talking to William Rogers on other matters on the afternoon of June 27, 1955, he brought up the Bentley matter with me. He stated that when Bentley's income tax problems were first called to his attention, he had talked to David Kendall, General Counsel of the Treasury Department, as he felt this would be more fitting and proper than to go directly to Andrews; and apparently Andrews was piqued over not being approached directly. I told Rogers that it was our understanding that Elizabeth Bentley had been notified last Friday that she was to lose her job at the Convent in Louisiana, and that she had been requested on the same day to appear and give testimony in the William Henry Taylor case before the United Nations Loyalty Hearing Board; that she had threatened to issue statements denouncing the Administration but she had calmed down somewhat. I told Rogers that this, of course, was not a matter within our jurisdiction but that it should be remembered that the basic case against the so-called White Collar Underground in Washington rested on Bentley and Whittaker Chambers. Rogers stated that he was not underestimating the importance of this situation and that he would try and get the matter worked out with the Treasury Department.

*we should drop  
out of this. It  
is up to the  
Department*

*6.29*

*lague.*

JUL 2 1955

TELETYPE

FBI NEW HAVEN

7-2-55

3-58 PM

DIRECTOR FBI

URGENT

ATTN. ASST. DIRECTOR A. H. BELMONT

ELIZABETH BENTLEY, CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE. RENHTEL SIX DASH TWENTY SEVEN

LAST, AND TELCAL FROM INSPEC. JOHN MC GUIRE THIS DATE. TODAY BENTLEY

ADVISED SHE HAD JUST RECEIVED LETTER FROM MOTHER SUPERIOR LAPERRE,

SACRED HEART COLLEGE WHICH WAS IN REPLY TO A RECENT LETTER

FROM BENTLEY AND ADVISED BENTLEY THAT SCHOOL WOULD CONSIDERREINSTATING HER IF A PROPER GOVERNMENT SOURCE WERE TO PUBLICLY ACK-NOWLEDGE THE FACT THAT BENTLEY-S TAX STATUS WAS BEING PROPERLYAND EQUITABLY HANDLED BY BENTLEY PAREN (AS BENTLEY HAD RECENTLYWRITTEN HER) PAREN. BENTLEY ON THIS OCCASION AGAIN EXPRESSEDGREAT IMPATIENCE AND INABILITY TO UNDERSTAND WHY THIS MATTER HASNTBEEN HANDLED AS SET FORTH IN NH TEL OF SIX DASH TWENTY SEVEN LAST,STATING TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. NH ENCOUNTERING INCREASED DIFFICULTYIN HANDLING BENTLEY WHO CONTINUES TO DEMAND WHAT ACTION WASHINGTONIS TAKING IN SETTLING TAX SITUATION AND ISSUING PUBLIC RELEASE TOUNDO HARM DONE BY PRESS WHEN TREASURY ORIGINALLY LEVIED ON HER.

AS A RESULT OF RE TELCAL TODAY BENTLEY AGAIN CONTACTED AND ADVISED IN

ACCORDANCE WITH INSPEC. MC GUIRES INSTRUCTIONS. BENTLEY EXPRESSED

GREAT RELIEF AND GRATITUDE TO BUREAU FOR ALL IT HAS DONE ON HER BEHALF.

CASPER

END

HOLD PLS AFTER ACK

4-02 PM OK FBI WA BJH

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. RHM	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Sizoo	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Ms. Gandy	

Mr. Belmont

 CC MR. BELMONT  
 AND SUPERVISOR  
 DOM. INTEL. DIVISION

RECORDED - 83

154-435-162  
11 JUL 12 1955

EX-104

ESP SEC



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Tic: Tully  
Nichols  
Boardman

Belmont  
Schweppe

The Attorney General (orig & 1)

July 6, 1955

Director, FBI

134-435-162

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY  
SECURITY INFORMANT

DECLASSIFIED BY

ON

37221

6428

2/27/78

RECORDED - 83

EX-104

Reference is made to my memorandum of June 28, 1955, which set forth certain developments concerning Miss Bentley's current problem with the Internal Revenue Service and with her former employer, Sacred Heart College in Grand Coteau, Louisiana.

For your information, on July 2, 1955, Miss Bentley advised a representative of this Bureau that she had received a letter that day from Mother Superior Lapere of Sacred Heart College. This letter was in reply to a recent communication from Miss Bentley and indicated that Sacred Heart College would consider reinstating her if a proper Government source were to acknowledge publicly the fact that Miss Bentley's tax status was being properly handled by her. Miss Bentley again expressed great impatience and an inability to understand why this matter hasn't been handled already. She indicated that time was of the essence in dealing with Mother Superior Lapere regarding Bentley's reinstatement to her former teaching position.

Upon receipt of information from Mr. Minor of the Department of Justice, Miss Bentley was advised later on July 2, 1955, for her personal and confidential information, that assurance had been received that no action would be taken at Sacred Heart College at this time regarding her dismissal from the staff. Miss Bentley seemed relieved to hear this and expressed her gratitude for the assistance offered her in this matter.

The foregoing is for your further information and assistance in connection with this matter.

134-435

cc Mr. William F. Tompkins

Deputy Attorney General

cc - 1 - Assistant Attorney General  
William F. Tompkins

HKS:alp/plv

59 JUL 13 1955

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF DECLASSIFICATION

DATE 3/17/80 BY SP8 EMB/STP

COMM - FBI  
JUL 6 1955  
MAILED 31

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED READING ROOM  
JUL 6 3 38 PM '55  
FBI  
JUL 5 5 08 PM '55



**Memorandum for the Attorney General**

**NOTE:**

This letter is written in response to the notation of the Director, "Send memo to AG, Rogers and Tompkins," which was noted on New Haven teletype 7/2/55, in this matter, and attached hereto.

On 7/1/55 Robert Minor of the Dept. advised Inspector J.J. McGuire that the Dept had the assurance of the Mother Superior at Sacred Heart College that the college would not take any action to dismiss Bentley at this time.

(See Memo from Nichols to Tolson 7/5/55 captioned "Elizabeth T. Bentley, Security Informant")

**F B I**  
**RECEIVED - NICHOLS**

**JUL 8 2 38 PM '55**

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
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Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

- 2 -

~~**CONFIDENTIAL**~~



# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (134-435)

FROM : SAC, New Haven (134-40)

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH BENTLEY  
~~CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE~~  
*Security Informant*

DATE: 6-24-55

ATTN.: ASST. DIRECTOR A. H. BELMONT

Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Sizoo	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

Re telephone call to Asst. Director A. H. BELMONT 6-24-55

On June 24, 1955, Miss BENTLEY was again interviewed at her request by SA SALVATORE F. DUCIBELLA and SA CHARLES E. SANDALL at her summer residence in Madison, Connecticut, at which time she exhibited a letter which she had just received from T. PAUL FAIRBANK, Executive Secretary of the International Organizations Employees Loyalty Board of the United States Civil Service Commission dated June 15, 1955 (which letter had been originally forwarded to BENTLEY'S address at the College of the Sacred Heart, Grand Coteau, Louisiana).

This letter advised BENTLEY that a panel of the International Organizations Employees Loyalty Board would convene on Wednesday, July 13, 1955, at 10:00 A.M., Room 214, main Civil Service Building, Washington, D. C., to hear testimony re WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR, an employee of the International Monetary Fund, whose case is being considered by this Board pursuant to the provisions of Executive Order 10422, as amended.

The letter invited BENTLEY to appear and testify in the presence of TAYLOR and his counsel, BYRON N. SCOTT, as to BENTLEY'S knowledge of TAYLOR, pointing out that TAYLOR and his counsel would have the right to cross examine BENTLEY.

The letter continued, noting that in February 1954 the former Chairman of this Loyalty Board, PIERCE J. GERETY called BENTLEY by long distance phone requesting her to appear and testify before the Board and that BENTLEY declined to appear at that time.

The letter continued that BENTLEY was again being requested to appear before the Board inasmuch as a newspaper article appearing in the New York Post of April 20, 1955 written by one WILLIAM V. SHANNON contained the following:

"Miss Bentley said she heard of Scott's exhaustive analysis of her testimony and writings in a 107 page brief filed with the Civil Service Commission's Loyalty Board for International Employees on 3/28 and would issue no reply even if a summary

JUL 58 8 02 AM '55

REGISTERED MAIL

3 28 PM '55

FBI - NEW HAVEN  
REC'D NEW HAVEN

Orleans

FBI - NEW HAVEN  
REC'D NEW HAVEN

RECORDED - 121

134-435-163

JUL 8 1955

memo N.H. 7-5-55  
cc-N.H.

c.c. Brandy

memo A.G.  
cc Rogers  
Tolpkins

6/30/55

R.F. Jones

5-8

Letter to the Bureau  
Re: Elizabeth Bentley  
Confidential Source

"of his charges were sent to her. She said she would testify if called by a Loyalty Board".

Relative to the above letter Miss BENTLEY advised that she planned to write Mr. FAIRBANK stating as a private American citizen she would like very much to help but because her time and resources were so limited it would be impossible for her to appear before the Board and testify. Further, that she was devoting what little funds and time she had to helping the Government (meaning the FBI.)

Relative to the above letter, Miss BENTLEY pointed out:

- 1) That PIERCE J. GERETY, above mentioned, had telephoned her in February 1954 asking her to meet privately with him and other members of his committee and asked her at that time if she had received a subpoena to appear in the WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR libel suit in Washington, D. C., against a Washington newspaper, stating that TAYLOR had told the Board that he had subpoenaed her. BENTLEY advised that she told GERETY that she had received no such subpoena from TAYLOR. GERETY then told BENTLEY that the Loyalty Board had agreed to delay the TAYLOR hearing but would like to meet with BENTLEY privately to get the inside story and information from her relative to TAYLOR and that this would be an off the record meeting. GERETY told BENTLEY that he was a friend of Senator KARL MUNDT. BENTLEY stated that she could not give GERETY an answer at that time and would need a week to let him know. She stated she thereupon contacted Senator MUNDT, who is a friend of hers and he advised her he had no knowledge of GERETY'S identity. BENTLEY stated that she thereafter learned that GERETY was a friend of BYRON N. SCOTT, counsel to TAYLOR and she thereafter advised GERETY that she would be unwilling to see him in the secret manner as he had requested.
- 2) Relative to the New York Post article above mentioned, BENTLEY stated that in April of 1955 she received a phone call from an unidentified individual stating that he was with the New York Post and asked her if she was acquainted with the detailed analysis of her testimony and writings made by TAYLOR'S counsel. BENTLEY advised this person that she knew of such a thing but had no opportunity to study it. She stated that the New York Post person then asked her if she would testify if subpoenaed and she replied that any American citizen who was subpoenaed would appear and testify as a matter of course. BENTLEY pointed

Letter to the Bureau  
Re: Elizabeth Bentley  
Confidential Source

out that her answer to the New York Post was completely misinterpreted in the newspaper article of April 20, 1955.

Subsequent to furnishing the above information on the morning of June 24, 1955, Miss BENTLEY telephonically contacted SA DUCIBELLA at the New Haven Office at 2:25 P.M., and advised that she had just received a letter from the Mother Superior of the College of the Sacred Heart, advising her that the school was forced to drop her from the faculty because of the adverse publicity resulting to BENTLEY'S and the school's reputation by the newspaper publicity of the Federal Government's filing a tax levy against her for failure to pay 1951 taxes. The letter pointed out that while the school officials had complete faith in BENTLEY'S sincerity and the honesty of her position that it was in a precarious financial condition and that it was unable to take the risk of continuing her on the faculty in view of the many adverse criticisms already received resulting from the above newspaper publicity. The letter included an AP dispatch from a local newspaper relative to this tax matter.

BENTLEY pointed out that this tax situation has resulted in her being deprived of what little funds she has had and now has resulted in the loss of her job. BENTLEY again noted that the actions of the Internal Revenue Service have placed her in such an embarrassing position as to cause her to lose her means of livelihood and that the tax levy on her funds has left her penniless. BENTLEY again stated with great emotion that if she is not protected by the Government in her present tax situation she will be forced to "blow the lid off the Administration" and stated that she would settle for nothing else than a full apology from the Internal Revenue Service which should be published in the Louisiana papers so as to re-establish her reputation in that area so that she could be in a position to seek reinstatement of her college teaching position.

While it was pointed out to Miss BENTLEY that this matter was not within the province of the Department of Justice, it was impressed upon Miss BENTLEY that she should remain calm and not make any public issue of the matter until an opportunity had been had to acquaint the Department of Justice in Washington of the situation and give the Department sufficient

Letter to the Bureau  
Re: Elizabeth Bentley  
Confidential Source

time to take whatever steps might appropriately be taken by them in an effort to assist her.

This office will make every effort to maintain amicable relations with Miss BENTLEY and keep her from making any public statement which will further complicate this situation. Miss BENTLEY has become emotionally upset about this problem and apparently so fears for the security of her future livelihood that it is becoming increasingly difficult to talk with her.

The New Haven Office would appreciate being advised of any developments in this matter as soon as possible in order that we may be in a position to properly handle Miss BENTLEY.

(original and 1)

SAC, New Haven (134-40)

U. S. A. - 10

July 5, 1955

RECORDED - 121

134-435-163  
Director, FBI (134-435)

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY  
SECURITY INFORMANT

Reurmemo 6-24-55. The following instructions and observations are for your guidance in connection with contacts with Elizabeth Bentley and her current problems with the Internal Revenue Service.

Bentley previously has been informed by a Bureau representative that the Bureau is not in any way responsible for her current difficulties with the Internal Revenue Service and the only action the Bureau will take is to see that appropriate Government officials are advised of her views and statements. You should adhere to this position. The Bureau has been informed that the Internal Revenue Service intends to re-examine Bentley's tax problem.

The question of whether Bentley appears before the International Organizations Employees Loyalty Board in connection with the William Henry Taylor case is a decision for Bentley to make and the Bureau will not counsel her in connection with this matter.

You should promptly furnish to the Bureau any further information coming to your attention concerning the foregoing matters inasmuch as the Bureau is keeping appropriate officials of the Department of Justice informed of this matter.

cc - 2 - New Orleans

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JUL 10 1955  
FBI - NEW ORLEANS

JUL 10 1955

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JUL 10 1955  
FBI - NEW ORLEANS

MAILED 6  
JUL - 6 1955  
FBI - NEW ORLEANS

JUL 10 1955  
FBI - NEW ORLEANS

JUL 10 1955  
FBI - NEW ORLEANS

- Tolson
- Boardman
- Nichols
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Winterrowd
- Tele. Room
- Holloman
- Gandy

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson *V. Kennedy*

FROM : L. B. Nichols *LBN*

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH BENTLEY

DATE: July 5, 1955

Tolson ☒

Boardman ☒

Nichols ☒

Belmont ☒

Harbo ☒

Mohr ☒

Parsons ☒

Rosen ☒

Tamm ☒

Sizoo ☒

Winterrowd ☒

Tele. Room ☒

Holloman ☒

Gandy ☒

BRANGAN

Judge Robert Morris called me today to advise that David Kendall, the General Counsel of the Treasury Department, had called him on July 5, 1955, to advise that the procedure has now been worked out with Internal Revenue for him to proceed in the handling of Elizabeth Bentley's tax difficulties.

Apparently the regulations of the Internal Revenue Bureau require the third party to have the power of attorney. Morris could not function under a power of attorney since he is on the bench. Kendall stated, however, that the power of attorney could be limited by specific phraseology by pointing out that Morris was acting in a friendly way and not as a counsel and that his intervention was not pursuant to the practice of law. Kendall told him that as soon as he had the power of attorney to let him know and to also get in touch with Coleman Andrews.

LBN:gjm  
(4)

cc: Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Belmont

EX-122  
RECORDED - 21

134-435-164

5-221

60 JUL 18 1955



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson *V.P. 10/1*

FROM : L. B. Nichols *per*

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY  
SECURITY INFORMANT

DATE: July 5, 1955 *ab*

Tolson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Boardman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Nichols	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Belmont	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Harbo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mohr	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Parsons	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rosen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tamm	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sizoo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Winterrowd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tele. Room	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Holloman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gandy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

*Engeman*

For record purposes, in my absence Friday night, July 1, 1955, Bob Minor of the Department called my office advising cryptically that he had the assurance from the senior lady that she will not take any action to dismiss the other woman in whom we were interested. What Minor had in mind here was the contact made through the Department with the nun in charge at the Sacred Heart Convent in Louisiana where Elizabeth Bentley has been employed.

Accordingly, I had SAC Casper in New Haven contacted telephonically Saturday, July 2, 1955, and instructed to have the Agent handling Miss Bentley get in touch with her at once to inform her for her personal and confidential information that we had received advice that no action would be taken at the convent regarding any dismissal of her services. Miss Bentley was to be informed that we just wanted her to know of this assurance and that there was nothing that she should do. Casper stated he would have this done at once; that he had just heard earlier Saturday from the Agent handling Miss Bentley that she had received a letter from the Sister Superior at the Sacred Heart Convent indicating that the convent would not dismiss Miss Bentley if there was some public statement made or assurances given that she was not involved in any trouble with the Government concerning her income tax matters. Casper stated that Miss Bentley was somewhat upset and word now from the Bureau that no action would be taken should greatly calm down Miss Bentley. Casper stated he would see that she was contacted and he would submit a teletype to the Bureau later Saturday afternoon.

cc: Mr. Boardman

Mr. Belmont

JJM:arm

(4)

RECORDED - 21

134-435-165

JUL 13 1955

EX-122

S. P. 1

*Jefferson*

60 JUL 18 1955

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson ✓

FROM : L. B. Nichols ✓

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH BENTLEY

DATE: June 29, 1955

Tolson	✓
Boardman	✓
Nichols	✓
Belmont	✓
Mohr	✓
Parsons	✓
Rosen	✓
Tamm	✓
Nease	✓
Winterrowd	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Holloman	✓
Gandy	✓

In line with Mr. Belmont's memorandum dated June 28, 1955, William Rogers is out of town until Friday afternoon and so I mentioned the substance of Miss Bentley's position to Robert Minor. Minor stated that he knew that Mr. Rogers had been talking to David Kendall, General Counsel of the Treasury Department, and he would contact Kendall.

In this connection, Robert Morris was in town on June 29, 1955, and I spoke to him briefly. He also talked to David Kendall who is going to talk to T. Coleman Andrews after Andrews returns to town Friday to see if this matter cannot be adjusted. Morris is going to try in his negotiations with the Internal Revenue to get the best possible adjustment he can for Elizabeth Bentley's income tax difficulties, and then George Sokolsky agreed to raise the necessary funds in order to get Miss Bentley squared away.

Morris also has written to the Mother Superior at the school where Bentley teaches in Louisiana interceding for Miss Bentley and pointing out that his wife's sister is the Mother Superior of a school operated by the same order in Puerto Rico.

Morris is also getting Godfrey Schmidt, New York attorney who at one time represented Elizabeth Bentley, to intercede on her behalf with church officials and in turn have the church officials intercede in Louisiana.

cc: Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Belmont  
LBN:arm  
(4)

RECORDED - 21

EX-122

JUL 12 1955

134-4135-166

- 5-11-18

ADDENDUM: LBN:arm 6-30-55. Robert Minor in the Deputy Attorney General's office called me this morning to advise that he talked to David Kendall yesterday and that Kendall promised to talk to Coleman Andrews when he returns to the city on Friday and would try to get the Bentley matter resolved. Minor further

60 JUL 18 1955

Memorandum to Mr. Tolson from L. B. Nichols

stated he had talked to the Attorney General who is concerned about the treatment of Bentley and the Attorney General told him to contact the Mother Superior at the Sacred Heart Academy at Grand Coteau, Louisiana, to intercede for Miss Bentley. Minor wanted the Mother Superior's name, which I gave him. I then asked Minor if he had given any thought to having the United States Attorney see the Mother Superior. He stated he had not but it would be a much better idea than telephoning her and he would get George Blue, the U.S. Attorney in New Orleans, to see the Mother Superior immediately and try to intercede on behalf of Elizabeth Bentley to save her job.

✓      ✓

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

AL

Ticklers

Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Jensen

July 14, 1955

The Attorney General  
(original and 1)  
Director, FBI

3722

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY  
SECURITY INFORMANT

In connection with my previous memoranda to you in this matter concerning Elizabeth T. Bentley's tax problem with the Internal Revenue Service, Bentley has continued to express great anxiety and impatience that her tax problem has not been resolved by the Internal Revenue Service. Bentley has stated she is most anxious to immediately bring to a final solution her tax problem, claiming that the longer it rides the more difficult it will be to re-establish her reputation in Louisiana in view of the adverse publicity in that area which she claims was released by the Internal Revenue Service officials.

The foregoing is for your further information in connection with this matter.

134-435

DECLASSIFIED BY 6428

cc - 1 - Mr. William P. Rogers  
Deputy Attorney General ON 2/27/78

cc - 1 - Assistant Attorney General  
William F. Tompkins

RGJ:et  
(9)

MAILED 2

JUL 15 1955

COMM-FBI

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
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Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

JUL 20 1955

RECORDED-54  
JUL 18 1955

JUL 18 1955

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES

ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S)

Classification

DATE 3/11/78 BY [signature]

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (134-435)  
FROM : SAC, New Haven (134-40)  
SUBJECT: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY  
SECURITY INFORMANT

DATE: 7/9/55

Rebulet 7/5/55. BENTLEY has been advised of the Bureau's position in accordance with instructions in rebulet.

BENTLEY continues to express great anxiety and impatience that her tax problem has not been resolved by the Internal Revenue Service. She states that she is most anxious to immediately bring to a final solution her tax problem, claiming that the longer it rides the more difficult it will be to reestablish her reputation in Louisiana in view of the adverse publicity there which she claims was initially released by the local Internal Revenue officials.

BENTLEY has been very co-operative with New Haven Agents who have contacted her recently on four separate days in connection with leads in espionage matters and particularly in connection with the WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR case. In the latter case she has given two full days to Agents reviewing the 107 page TAYLOR analysis. She has agreed to be available for the additional time needed to review the TAYLOR analysis along with the necessary review of various other documents of the hearings in which her testimony and that of the Director and the Attorney General relating to BENTLEY have appeared. It is contemplated that this review may take two additional days.

In view of the fact that BENTLEY has continued her co-operation with the Bureau by giving generously of her time, and in view of the financial difficulties she appears to be presently experiencing, it is recommended that the Bureau give consideration to authorizing payment of an additional fifty dollars to BENTLEY. In this connection, BENTLEY has stated that she is glad to co-operate with the Bureau and does not want to be paid for such assistance as she may render. Nonetheless, it was noted that she expressed gratitude for the financial assistance recently rendered her.

1-7X 13  
SFDP:PF  
(5)

RECORDED 13

134-435-168

cc: 2-New Orleans (134-89) (RM)

REGISTERED

Let to AG  
cc - Deputy AG Rogers  
AA G  
7-14-55  
Let to New Haven  
7-14-55 RGT:et

See Section 11

SAC, New Haven (134-40)

July 14, 1955

(original and 1)

RECORDED 13 Director, FBI (134-435) - 168

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY  
SECURITY INFORMANT

EX-122

Reurlet 7-9-55.

The Bureau is aware of the current difficulties that Miss Bentley is experiencing. As you well know, the difficulties with the Internal Revenue Service have in no way been caused by the Bureau or its relationship with Bentley. It is not believed that the Bureau should interject itself into the midst of Bentley's difficulties by offering her additional funds at this time.

NOTE: New Haven by let 6-27-55 advised Bentley given \$100 on 6-25-55 with Bureau authority. New Haven let of 6-27-55 was attached to memo of 6-28-55 from Mr. Belmont to Mr. Boardman which advised that information received from Bentley re her difficulties with Internal Revenue Service was being sent to the Attorney General, Deputy Attorney General and Assistant Attorney General Tompkins. Director commented, "O.K. But we are not going to advance any more funds to her. We must keep in mind the fact that this matter is essentially one for the Department and we should not take it over nor master mind it. H."

RGJ:et  
(4)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

COMM - FBI  
JUL 15 1955  
MAILED 19

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REC'D SEP 10 11

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JUL 15 11 24 AM '55

60 JUL 20 1955



# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (134-435)  
 FROM : SAC, NEW HAVEN (134-40)  
 SUBJECT: ELIZABETH BENTLEY  
 CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE

DATE: June 27, 1955

ATT: ASSIST. DIRECTOR A. H. BELMONT

Mr. Boardman  
 Mr. Harbo  
 Mr. Mohr  
 Mr. Parsons  
 Mr. Rosen  
 Mr. Tamm  
 Mr. Sizoo  
 Mr. Winterrowd  
 Mr. Nease  
 Mr. Gandy

Re telephone call from Inspector C. E. HENNRICH, 6/25/55 and New Haven Teletype to the Bureau dated 6/27/55.

On the evening of 6/25/55 Miss ELIZABETH BENTLEY was contacted at her Summer residence at Madison, Connecticut and advised in accordance with the Bureau instructions received by the New Haven Office by referenced telephone call, i.e., that BENTLEY's tax situation was being handled on a high level by Treasury Department officials who were sympathetic to BENTLEY's position and BENTLEY was specifically requested not to take any public action at this time which would jeopardize the proper resolution of her tax situation at this time.

At this time Miss BENTLEY was also given \$100.00 in cash in accordance with the above referred to Bureau instructions and advised that these funds were being given to her in recognition of the time and assistance which she has recently been allocating to the Bureau Agents who have been calling on her in connection with various investigative matters. In this connection BENTLEY expressed gratitude for this assistance, stating that she was always glad to fully cooperate with the Bureau and give all the necessary time needed to help the Bureau in its work; further, that she did not want the Bureau to feel that she was only cooperating with the Bureau for a financial return, but nonetheless, she appreciated the Bureau's assistance to her in this regard at this time.

As will be noted in New Haven letter to the Bureau of 6/24/55, Miss BENTLEY had previously advised with great emotion that she expected the Federal Government to protect her in her present situation and that she would be forced to "blow the lid off the Administration" and that she would settle for nothing less than a full apology from the Internal Revenue Service which would be made public in the Louisiana press so as to re-establish her reputation in that area so that she could be in a position to seek reinstatement of her college teaching position. When recontacted on 6/25/55 BENTLEY again reiterated the above position with great emotion, stating that the prime objective at this time is for her to obtain reinstatement of her teaching position at the College of the Sacred Heart at Grand Coteau, Louisiana and that to effect this objective it was first essential that a responsible Government official of either the Treasury or Justice Department immediately contact Mother Superior LA PERRE at this College.

SPD/lrf  
 (2) CC: New Orleans  
 REGISTERED MAIL

RECORDED-59134-435-169

EX JUL 20 1955

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 27 1955	
FBI - NEW HAVEN	

(5)

EX-103

71 JUL 21 1955

NH 134-40

to advise that BENTLEY's tax status had been resolved, that BENTLEY was not at fault in this matter inasmuch as she had placed her tax problems in the care of her Attorney, ROBERT MORRIS, of New York City who was in touch with the Internal Revenue authorities in New York relative to same and that the official should express regret for the adverse publicity relative to BENTLEY and to the College which had appeared in the Louisiana press. BENTLEY stated that this was necessary to forestall the school making a new appointment of another person replacing BENTLEY on the faculty, pointing out that if another person were appointed this would prevent BENTLEY from obtaining a reinstatement of her teaching position.

BENTLEY reiterated her threat to go to the press and tell what had happened to her and to severely criticize the Government in an effort to save her own reputation. BENTLEY agreed to hold off for the present time, but expressed great anxiety lest her teaching position be given to some one else if there is any delay in taking the above step.

It was again pointed out to Miss BENTLEY that this matter was not within the province of this Bureau, however, it was impressed upon her that she should remain calm and not make any public issue which would complicate the situation until an opportunity had been had to acquaint the Department of Justice in Washington of the situation and to give the Department sufficient time to take whatever steps might appropriately be taken in an effort to assist her.

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : L. V. Boardman

DATE: June 28, 1955

FROM : A. H. Belmont

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY  
SECURITY INFORMANT

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Attached is a memorandum from the Director to the Attorney General with a carbon copy for Mr. William P. Rogers, Deputy Attorney General and Assistant Attorney General Tompkins dated June 28, 1955. This memorandum sets forth the details of Bentley's conversation with a representative of the New Haven office on 6-25-55. Bentley advised at that time that her prime objective now was to be reinstated in her teaching position at Sacred Heart in Grant Coteau, Louisiana. She wanted a responsible Justice or Treasury official to advise Mother Superior Lapere that Bentley's tax status had been resolved and to express regrets for the adverse publicity which appeared in the Louisiana newspapers concerning Bentley and Sacred Heart.

## ACTION:

In view of the fact that Mr. Nichols has been discussing this matter with Deputy Attorney General Rogers, it is suggested that Mr. Nichols may wish to inform Mr. Rogers orally of the contents of the attached memorandum today.

RECORDED-59

EX-108

JUL 20 1955

Enclosure sent  
6-29-55

cc - 1 - L. V. Boardman  
cc - 1 - A. H. Belmont  
cc - 1 - L. B. Nichols  
cc - 1 - H. W. Schweppe

HWS:mjp

(5)

*But we are not going to  
advance any more funds  
to her. We must keep in  
mind the fact that this  
matter is essentially  
one of the Dept. of Justice  
should not take over  
nor involve mind of.*

memo me Tolson

71 JUL 21 1955

H.

5-67  
J. R. [signature]

Seattle, Washington  
July 5, 1955

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington - 25 District of Columbia

Dear Mr. Hoover

Re: Elizabeth Bentley

As to Miss Bentley among someone  
that is delinquent I have no  
comment to make regarding that  
part of attached clipping.

However I was most sorry to  
see her present address published  
as I feel that she did help a lot in  
convicting a number of people  
active communists.

134-1435-171

11 JUL 26 1955

It is also hard for me to under-  
stand why communists papers are  
sold openly on the streets of Seattle.

11 JUL 26 1955

136-435-171



## **U.S. Tax Lien Filed Against Elizabeth Bentley**

OPELOUSAS, La., June 9. —  
UP — The Internal Revenue  
Service has filed a tax lien  
against Elizabeth Bentley, for-  
mer Communist who turned  
government witness.

Records in the clerk of  
Court's office here today  
showed the lien is for \$3,790 in  
unpaid taxes during 1951.

Miss Bentley, who quit the  
Reds many years ago, is a  
teacher at the Sacred Heart  
College in nearby Grand Co-  
teau.



RECORDED - 63

INDEXED - 63

July 18, 1955

134-435-171

37223

EX-121

Mrs. Ruth S. Quinby  
Post Office Box 6017  
Seattle, Washington

Dear Mrs. Quinby:

Your letter dated July 5, 1955, with enclosure,  
has been received, and I want to thank you for bringing  
your interesting observations to my attention.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

NOTE: No record Bufiles re correspondent, who enclosed  
clipping reflecting that Elizabeth Bentley had U. S. tax  
lien filed against her.

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Boardman \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Parsons \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

JRH: jdy  
(3)

COMM - FBI  
JUL 18 1955  
MAILED 19

66 JUL 26 1955

*McGowan*  
*V. R. - Mr. [unclear]*  
*J. H.*

Director, FBI (134-435)

7/13/55

SAC, New Haven (134-40)

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY  
CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE

mcc 1-1

Rebulet to New Haven, 5/26/55.

On 6/21/55 Miss ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY was interviewed at her summer residence in Madison, Connecticut, at which time she orally advised SA SALVATORE P. DUCIBELLA that she had no knowledge or recollection of any information pertaining to the individuals set forth in reBulet 1.e.,

LUCY KORNEI  
PHYLLIS HOPKINSON  
HELEN JASZI, nee HEINENANN  
SVEND LAURSEN  
JEANNE A. HEDLEY, nee BLODGETT  
SAM JOHN VAN HYNING  
HANS HERMANN LANDSBERG

Re: DONALD N. WHEELER

In evaluating the relationship and connection of the above individuals with DONALD N. WHEELER and Miss BENTLEY's lack of knowledge of these individuals, Miss BENTLEY furnished the following background information relative to her knowledge of DONALD N. WHEELER, pointing out that her relationship with WHEELER was so limited that he could have had close connections with the above individuals and the same would not come to her attention.

Miss BENTLEY related that in the Fall of 1943 when MARY PRICE, former secretary to WALTER LIPPMANN, returned to the United States from Mexico, PRICE was told to get a job at O.S.S. BENTLEY stated that PRICE reportedly almost landed an O.S.S. job, but some unknown hitch developed, PRICE got scared and went to New York City. Subsequently, it was learned that MARY PRICE had been turned down for the O.S.S. job because of her past Communist Party associations. BENTLEY was of the recollection that this fact became known to her through DUNCAN LEE.

SFD:PF

(11)

REGISTERED

Enclosures (6)

ENTIRE COPY FILED IN

134-435-✓  
NOT RECORDED  
141 JUL 22 1955

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 134-435-1

7/13/55

In this connection, BENTLEY related that she first became aware of DONALD N. WHEELER's activities in the PERLO group in March 1944, although his name had been mentioned in an indefinite and unconnected way off and on during the previous year. She stated that she was unable to think of any particular connection in which WHEELER's name had been mentioned. BENTLEY stated that she acquired the espionage group of which WHEELER was a member approximately a month later i.e., April 1944. BENTLEY recalled that she only met WHEELER personally on one occasion. She further recalled that WHEELER used to take "too much and too openly" from O.S.S., meaning that he had taken too many papers and documents in a rather open-handed manner from O.S.S. in connection with his espionage activities. She stated that this fact plus the fact that DUNCAN LEE furnished to her a security list containing the names of known CP members in O.S.S., caused her to "put him on ice immediately" as she felt he was too risky to deal with.

BENTLEY went on to say that the above list of individuals were not members of the group of which WHEELER was a member during the short period of time that she handled this group. She added, however, that amongst the espionage groups with which she was familiar in Washington at that time, the practice was such that WHEELER could have been instructed to give individuals jobs in his government organization and yet been instructed not to handle their espionage activities or to have any knowledge of the espionage group in which they were operating. Hence, BENTLEY stated, that it would have been possible that WHEELER was instructed by one of his previous espionage superiors to assist the above individuals in obtaining O.S.S. or other employment and yet that WHEELER would not handle or have knowledge of any espionage activities that they might engage in.

The six photographs furnished with the reBulet are being returned herewith to the Bureau.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson *per D's*

FROM : L. B. Nichols *LBN*

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY  
SECURITY INFORMANT

DATE: 7/15/55

Tolson ☒

Boardman ☒

Nichols ☒

Belmont ☒

Mohr ☒

Parsons ☒

Rosen ☒

Tamm ☒

Sizoo ☒

Winterrowd ☒

Tele. Room ☒

Holloman ☒

Gandy ☒

*Briggs*

Judge Robert Morris informed me on Monday that he had concluded that he could not be named in a power of attorney by Elizabeth Bentley to adjudicate the income tax difficulties with Internal Revenue since this was prohibited by the Municipal Court of New York of which he is a member and since he had finally decided to take it up with the Judge who told him definitely he could not be named in a power of attorney even though he would be actively engaged in the practice of law. Morris has now finally worked out an arrangement whereby Godfrey Schmidt will file the power of attorney. Morris will help out in the negotiations with the Internal Revenue Bureau.

Morris told me that Miss Bentley does not understand the delays and he himself was to blame in part.

LBN:ime  
(2)

RECORDED

134-435-172  
2 JUL 22 1955

JENSEN

JUL 19 2 14 PM '55

JUL 27 1955

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. A. H. BELMONT *AB*

DATE: July 26, 1955

FROM : MR. L. H. MARTIN *LHM*

SUBJECT: WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR  
ESPIONAGE - R

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor William McDonald of the New York Office called at 8:15 p.m. July 26, 1955, in response to an earlier call from Mr. Cleveland concerning the whereabouts of the \$2,000 which had been received from Elizabeth Bentley. Mr. McDonald stated that this \$2,000 is still retained in the office safety deposit box in the Manufacturers Trust Company pursuant to instructions set forth in Bulet to the New York Office dated February 25, 1954, captioned "Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, Espionage - R (65-56402)."

## RECOMMENDATION:

For your information.

134-435-  
NOT RECORDED  
117 AUG 1 1955

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

cc - Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Cleveland 5 32 BH .22  
Mr. Brantigan  
Mr. Jensen

27 JUL 29 1955

LHM:jad

BI - INSURANCE  
UFF - UNKNOWN

64 AUG 2 1955

100-37031

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Sizoo	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

TO : Director, FBI  
 Attn: Inspector CARL HENNRICH  
 FROM : SAC, New York (134-182)  
 SUBJECT: ELIZABETH TERRELL BENTLEY

DATE: 7/28/55

Reference is made to the Bureau phone call of 7/28/55 captioned as above.

Inspector CARL HENNRICH, who made referenced Bureau phone call, requested that this office answer the following questions in connection with captioned case:

1. What happened between 10/16/45 and 11/7/45 in connection with contacts of NYO with BENTLEY?
2. Did BENTLEY come in voluntarily?
3. Is there any more information available concerning BENTLEY's visit to the NYO 10/16/45 other than appears in former Agent ALDRICH's memo, e.g., Did SA BUCKLEY prepare a memo?

A review of the files in this office reveals that former SA FRANK ALDRICH interviewed ELIZABETH BENTLEY on 10/16/45 in connection with the case entitled, "LT. PETER HELLER; IMPERSONATION; ESPIONAGE - R". The memo of former SA ALDRICH was typed on 11/5/45. It should be noted that the memo of former SA ALDRICH contained no information concerning a meet between BENTLEY and Russian Agent GROMOV scheduled for 10/17/45. ALDRICH's memo reflects that he telephonically advised SA EDWARD W. BUCKLEY of this office of the interview with BENTLEY at the NYO concerning the HELLER case. The memo of former Agent ALDRICH does not state when he notified Agent BUCKLEY and the latter has no recollection when he received word from former SA ALDRICH; however, Agent BUCKLEY remembers former SA ALDRICH advising him of the interview with BENTLEY. As a result of the information furnished by ALDRICH that BENTLEY may possess information concerning possible Russian Espionage activities in this country and since BENTLEY left a phone number where she could be reached with ALDRICH, Agent BUCKLEY made several unsuccessful attempts to telephonically contact Miss BENTLEY.

RM

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7/28/55 3 00 PM '55

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 20 JUL 29 1955  
 TULLY  
 1150  
 Sec. 1

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EST - 1021ICE  
 REC'D REG MON 1

EST - 1021ICE  
 REC'D REG MON 1

CEB: [signature]

6-5 AUG 8 1955

15 PM '55  
 134-435



Letter to Director  
NY 134-182

A review of the files in this office reveals that SA BUCKLEY prepared a memo dated 11/13/45 captioned, "ELIZABETH TERRELL BUCKLEY, was; ET AL; ESPIONAGE-R". This memo reflects, in substance, as follows:

After several unsuccessful attempts to telephonically contact Miss BENTLEY at the phone number she gave, Murray Hill 3-9775, phone number of the U.S. Service and Shipping Corp., Agent BUCKLEY was able to reach her on 11/6/45 and made an appointment to interview her at the NYO, 11/7/45. This memo further states at the time this appointment was made Miss BENTLEY told Agent BUCKLEY that she was upset and had a great deal on her mind and that she was undecided whether she should mention the information in her possession to the writer. Agent BUCKLEY explained to Miss BENTLEY on the phone that if she had any information regarding un-American activities this Bureau should know about the same and that if she allowed Agent BUCKLEY to speak with her he could possibly offer her some assistance and guidance.

Agent BUCKLEY's memo of 11/13/45 further reflects that on 11/7/45 Miss BENTLEY was interviewed at the NYO. Agent BUCKLEY can recall Miss BENTLEY making the remark when she appeared at the NYO on 11/7/45 that she was informed at her office that someone had been trying to get in touch with her several times. She stated that she was not at her office because she was ill with a cold or the flu for a period of time and also she was involved in some moving transaction.

ELIZABETH BENTLEY did come into the NYO voluntarily as a result of Agent BUCKLEY's phone call invitation.

The only other information available concerning BENTLEY's visit to the NYO on 10/16/45 other than appears in former SA ALDRICH's memo is the memo of Agent BUCKLEY dated 11/13/45 referred to above.

Agent BUCKLEY's memo of 11/13/45, mentioned above, further reveals that since Miss BENTLEY appeared at the NYO she was persuaded to give information in her possession regarding Russian Espionage Activities and she finally consented she would explain all the information in her possession to the interviewing agents. As a result a detailed statement was taken from Miss BENTLEY concerning Russian Espionage activities in this country on 11/7/45.

Letter to Director

NY 134-182

The possibility exists that BENTLEY, as a result of her appearance at the New Haven Office on 8/23/45 and her subsequent visit to the NYO on 10/16/45, may have gained the impression that she was under surveillance by agents of this Bureau.

However, no surveillance was conducted of Miss BENTLEY until after she appeared at the NYO on 11/7/45. This office had no knowledge of any contact between ELIZABETH BENTLEY and Russian Espionage Agent GROMOV prior to 11/7/45. It should be noted that the memo of former SA FRANK ALDRICH dated 11/5/45 makes no mention of a scheduled meeting between BENTLEY and GROMOV and therefore Agent BUCKLEY had no knowledge of any such meeting until his interview with BENTLEY on 11/7/45.

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 7/20/55

FROM : SAC, Los Angeles (100-23505)

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH TERRILL BENTLEY, et al.  
ESPIONAGE - R

Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Sizoo	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

ATTENTION: INSPECTOR CARL HENNRICH

Re Bureau phone call at 8:22 A.M. on this date.

Former Special Agent FRANK C. ALDRICH was interviewed at Long Beach, California, by SA GEORGE J. NAGEL, and following the interview ALDRICH called me on the telephone and reiterated the information he had given to SA NAGEL. The following are the results of both interviews:

Mr. ALDRICH stated that he wanted to cooperate in every way possible. He related that he left the Bureau on October 21, 1945, and recalls that shortly prior thereto a letter from ELIZABETH BENTLEY, written somewhere in Connecticut, was routed to him by Supervisor GUS GERDES. The letter in essence indicated that some person had been representing himself to ELIZABETH BENTLEY as an FBI agent. As a result of the letter an appointment was arranged for ELIZABETH BENTLEY and she came to the New York office, where she was interviewed by SA ALDRICH.

Mr. ALDRICH stated that he does not recall the exact date of the interview, but he does remember that it was about a week before he left the Bureau and that it was the only such interview he ever had with ELIZABETH BENTLEY. He stated that he interviewed her with the thought in mind that she wished to make a complaint about an individual representing himself to be an FBI agent, but upon talking with her he found this was not actually the situation. She stated that she was being followed and it was her impression that she was being followed by FBI agents.

At the outset of the interview, ALDRICH gained the impression that she had come to the office seeking information rather than for the purpose of giving information. As the interview went on, he recalls, she began to give him a little background on herself by stating that she was closely tied in with people of whom she had suspicions and whom she believed to be Russian espionage agents. She stated that she had contact

7/20/55 11 23 AM '55  
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(3)  
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REC'D RETHOMI

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134-435-174

7/20/55 10 24 AM '55 JUL 20 1955

FX-104

15 AUG 8 1955

134-435

TULLY info  
J. D. Johnson

LA 100-23505

with the Russian Amtorg Agency as well as contacts with Communists. She further related that she had some Communist training in her background.

At this point Mr. ALDRICH stated he was beginning to wonder exactly why ELIZABETH BENTLEY had come to the office and that possibly she was a psychopath rambling on. He stated that to bolster up her statement that she thought she was dealing with Russian espionage agents, she stated that she would arrange a meeting with a man, say, by the name of John, at a given time and place. If John did not show up at the meeting place, then she would meet him two blocks away the next day an hour later. Mr. ALDRICH stated that he definitely tried to pin her down to specifics, but she would talk only in the realm of generalities. At the termination of the interview, she tried to arrange for ALDRICH to meet her at her apartment for further discussion.

ALDRICH stated that ELIZABETH BENTLEY definitely did not mention any specific contact with anyone on the following day. He said that he feels certain that if she made such a statement he would definitely feel that she was dealing in espionage. As it was at the termination of the interview, he had a suspicion that there might be some substance to her statements to the effect that she was dealing with espionage agents, but his suspicions were clearly without foundation. He stated that if she ever told him she was going to have a meeting with an agent the following day and if he told her she should do nothing to interfere with her friendship with such an agent or to go ahead and make such a contact, he very definitely would remember such an item. He stated that to the best of his recollection the interview lasted approximately two hours and a half, and he wrote the interview up in detail and routed it to the Espionage Section of the New York office with the recommendation that she should be talked to further.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : L. V. BOARDMAN *lv*

DATE: August 5, 1955

FROM : A. H. BELMONT *AB*

Ticklers: Boardman  
Nichols  
Belmont  
Branigan  
Jensen

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY  
SECURITY INFORMANT

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Attached is a memorandum to the Attorney General with carbon copy for Deputy Attorney General William P. Rogers and Assistant Attorney General William F. Tompkins dated 8-8-55. This memorandum sets forth details of Bentley's conversation with a representative of our New Haven office on 8-4-55. Bentley said she was very upset over long delay in handling her tax problem by Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Bentley said she conferred with IRS representative in New York City for about four days, beginning 7-18 past. States she has not heard from IRS since that time. She requested New Haven agent to contact Bureau and have Department apply pressure to IRS to get settlement. Bentley stated she is upset with delay and is ready to "blow up the works" by going to the newspapers as she has threatened in past. She insisted on and believed IRS agreed to issue statement publicly clarifying her tax situation. She advised if same is not forthcoming immediately she will take action on her own. New Haven agent pointed out to Bentley that hasty and imprudent action on her part in upsetting arrangements made thus far would not benefit her or the Government. New Haven requested any information which could be made known to Bentley.

A teletype to New Haven has been prepared advising New Haven it may inform Miss Bentley that her comments have been brought to the attention of the appropriate authorities. Teletype to New Haven is attached. New Haven also being advised for its own information Bentley comments furnished to Attorney General and that Bureau is not becoming involved in Bentley's tax problem, as it is matter for Department to handle.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

(1) Attached letter advising of Bentley's comments be approved and forwarded to the Attorney General with cc for Deputy Attorney General Rogers and Assistant Attorney General Tompkins.

RECORDED

EX-121

AUG 9 1955

(6) 134-435

Enclosures

61 AUG 11 1955

RGJ:rrp

Memorandum for Mr. Boardman

*attached & sent per*

(2) Attached teletype advising New Haven that it may inform Bentley her comments have been brought to the attention of the appropriate authorities be approved and forwarded.

*gms*  
*116*  
*Walt*  
*ECT*

*W.F.*

*Kai*



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 4 1955

TELETYPE

Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Sizoo  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

FBI NEW HAVEN

8-4-55

12-20 PM

DIRECTOR

ATTENTION L. B. NICHOLS AND A. BELMONT

URGENT

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY, CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE. MISS BENTLEY TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED SA C. E. SANDALL OF THIS OFFICE TODAY TO ADVISE THAT SHE IS VERY UPSET OVER THE LONG DELAY IN HANDLING OF HER TAX PROBLEM BY THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE. SHE EXPLAINED THAT SHE CONFERRED WITH IRS IN NEW YORK CITY FOR ABOUT FOUR DAYS BEGINNING MONDAY, JULY EIGHTEEN, LAST AND ENTERED INTO AN OFFER AND COMPROMISE IN SETTLEMENT OF HER TAX DELINQUENCY. A MR. HENNESSY FROM WASHINGTON, D. C. WHO WAS SUPPOSEDLY TO BE FAMILIAR WITH HER CASE, CONFERRED WITH HER. HENNESSY POSSESSED NO BACKGROUND DATA ON HER CASE AND SHE STATES SHE SPENT ONE FULL DAY ACQUAINTING HIM WITH HER PROBLEM. SHE WAS ADVISED BY IRS REPRESENTATIVE THAT NO DECISION COULD BE REACHED ON HER CASE UNTIL DATA WAS REVIEWED IN WASHINGTON. BENTLEY HAS NOT HEARD FROM IRS SINCE THAT TIME, FEELS THAT HER CASE HAS BEEN EITHER DROPPED OR DELAYED AND SHE CONSIDERS TIME TO BE IMPORTANT. SHE REQUESTED SA SANDALL TO CONTACT THE BUREAU AND QUOTE HAVE ALL THE PRESSURE OF THE DEPT. APPLIED TO IRS TO GET A SETTLEMENT UNQUOTE. SHE STATES SHE IS QUOTE FED UP UNQUOTE WITH THE DELAY AND IS READY TO BLOW UP THE WORKS UNQUOTE BY GOING TO THE NEWSPAPERS AS SHE HAS THREATENED TO DO IN THE PAST. BENTLEY STATED THAT SHE INSISTED ON AND BELIEVES THAT IRS AGREED TO ISSUING A STATEMENT PUBLICLY CLARIFYING HER TAX SITUATION. IF SAME IS NOT FORTHCOMING IMMEDIATELY, SHE SAID SHE WOULD TAKE ACTION ON HER OWN. SA SANDALL

Mr. Belmont

134-435

PAGE TWO

POINTED OUT TO HER THAT HASTY AND IMPRUDENT ACTION ON HER PART IN UP-  
SETTING THE ARRANGEMENTS MADE THUS FAR WOULD NOT BENEFIT HER OR THE  
GOVERNMENT. AGENT FEELS THAT HE HAS FORESTALLED ANY PERSONAL RETALI-  
ATORY ACTS BY MISS BENTLEY FOR THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE. NHD HAS SEVERAL  
LEADS OUTSTANDING CALLING FOR INTERVIEWS WITH BENTLEY, BUT SHE ADVISED  
HER RECENT EMOTIONAL CONDITION PRECLUDES ABILITY TO THINK ABOUT OR  
CONCENTRATE ON OTHER MATTERS AND SHE WILL TALK ABOUT NOTHING BUT TAX  
PROBLEM UNTIL IT IS SETTLED. THE ABOVE IS FOR BUREAU-S INFORMATION.  
ANY DEVELOPMENTS WHICH CAN BE MADE KNOWN TO BENTLEY SHOULD BE FURNISHED  
NH PROMPTLY.

CASPER

END

12-28 PM OK FBI WA MES

OK MR. BELMONT  
AND SUPERVISOR  
DOM, INTEL. DIVISION

*M. Nichols*

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 4 1955

TELETYPE

FBI NEW HAVEN

8-4-55

12-20 PM

DIRECTOR

ATTENTION L. B. NICHOLS AND A. BELMONT URGENT

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY, CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE. MISS BENTLEY TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED SA C. E. SANDALL OF THIS OFFICE TODAY TO ADVISE THAT SHE IS VERY UPSET OVER THE LONG DELAY IN HANDLING OF HER TAX PROBLEM BY THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE. SHE EXPLAINED THAT SHE CONFERRED WITH IRS IN NEW YORK CITY FOR ABOUT FOUR DAYS BEGINNING MONDAY, JULY EIGHTEEN, LAST AND ENTERED INTO AN OFFER AND COMPROMISE IN SETTLEMENT OF HER TAX DELINQUENCY. A MR. HENNESSY FROM WASHINGTON, D. C. WHO WAS SUPPOSEDLY TO BE FAMILIAR WITH HER CASE, CONFERRED WITH HER. HENNESSY POSSESSED NO BACKGROUND DATA ON HER CASE AND SHE STATES SHE SPENT ONE FULL DAY ACQUAINTING HIM WITH HER PROBLEM. SHE WAS ADVISED BY IRS REPRESENTATIVE THAT NO DECISION COULD BE REACHED ON HER CASE UNTIL DATA WAS REVIEWED IN WASHINGTON. BENTLEY HAS NOT HEARD FROM IRS SINCE THAT TIME, FEELS THAT HER CASE HAS BEEN EITHER DROPPED OR DELAYED AND SHE CONSIDERS TIME TO BE IMPORTANT. SHE REQUESTED SA SANDALL TO CONTACT THE BUREAU AND QUOTE HAVE ALL THE PRESSURE OF THE DEPT. APPLIED TO IRS TO GET A SETTLEMENT UNQUOTE. SHE STATES SHE IS QUOTE FED UP UNQUOTE WITH THE DELAY AND IS READY TO QUOTE "BLOW UP THE WORKS" UNQUOTE BY GOING TO THE NEWSPAPERS AS SHE HAS THREATENED TO DO IN THE PAST. BENTLEY STATED THAT SHE INSISTS AND BELIEVES THAT IRS AGREED TO ISSUING A STATEMENT PUBLICLY CLARIFYING HER POSITION. IF SAME IS NOT FORTHCOMING IMMEDIATELY, SHE SAID, SHE WOULD TAKE ACTION ON HER OWN. SA SANDALL

ORIGINAL—DIRECTOR

Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Sizoo  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

PAGE TWO

POINTED OUT TO HER THAT HASTY AND IMPRUDENT ACTION ON HER PART IN UP-  
SETTING THE ARRANGEMENTS MADE THUS FAR WOULD NOT BENEFIT HER OR THE  
GOVERNMENT. AGENT FEELS THAT HE HAS FORESTALLED ANY PERSONAL RETALI-  
ATORY ACTS BY MISS BENTLEY FOR THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE. NHD HAS SEVERAL  
LEADS OUTSTANDING CALLING FOR INTERVIEWS WITH BENTLEY, BUT SHE ADVISED  
HER RECENT EMOTIONAL CONDITION PRECLUDES ABILITY TO THINK ABOUT OR  
CONCENTRATE ON OTHER MATTERS AND SHE WILL TALK ABOUT NOTHING BUT TAX  
PROBLEM UNTIL IT IS SETTLED. THE ABOVE IS FOR BUREAU-S INFORMATION.  
ANY DEVELOPMENTS WHICH CAN BE MADE KNOWN TO BENTLEY SHOULD BE FURNISHED  
NH PROMPTLY.

CASPER

END

12-28 PM OK FBI WA MES

V

RECEIVED  
FBI  
DEC 29 1964

DEC 29 1964

RECEIVED

TELETYPE Belmont  
Brannigan  
URGENT Jensen

AUGUST 8 1955

SAC, NEW HAVEN (original)

RECORDED 134-435-176  
ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY, SECURITY INFORMANT. REURTEL AUGUST FOUR,  
NINETEEN FIFTY FIVE. YOU MAY ADVISE BENTLEY HER COMMENTS HAVE  
BEEN BROUGHT TO ATTENTION OF APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES. FOR YOUR  
OWN INFORMATION, BUREAU IS NOT BECOMING INVOLVED IN BENTLEY'S  
TAX PROBLEM AS IT IS MATTER FOR DEPARTMENT TO HANDLE. HER  
COMMENTS WERE BROUGHT TO ATTENTION OF ATTORNEY GENERAL.

HOOVER

134-435

RGJ:rmp

(7)

NOTE: Cover memo from Belmont to Boardman was prepared  
by RGJ:rmp on 8-5-55 in connection with the outgoing mail.

INITIALED  
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 6 1955

TELETYPE

TELETYPE  
Tolson  
Boardman  
Belmont  
Harbo  
Mohr  
Parsons  
Rosen  
Tamm  
Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Gandy

7152  
AUG 12 1955

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 6 1955

TELETYPE

FBI WASH DC 8-6-55 4-32 PM 0 JFP

SAC, NEW HAVEN URGENT

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY, SECURITY INFORMANT. REURTEL AUGUST FOUR, NINETEEN FIFTY FIVE. YOU MAY ADVISE BENTLEY HER COMMENTS HAVE BEEN BROUGHT TO ATTENTION OF APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES. FOR YOUR OWN INFORMATION, BUREAU IS NOT BECOMING INVOLVED IN BENTLEY-S TAX PROBLEM AS IT IS MATTER FOR DEPARTMENT TO HANDLE. HER COMMENTS WERE BROUGHT TO ATTENTION OF ATTORNEY GENERAL.

HOOVER

END ACK PLS

OK FBI NH JFV



DIRECTOR, FBI

(65-50402)

July 30, 1955

SAC, NEW HAVEN

(65-1149)

NATHAN GREGORY SILVERMASTER, Was. ET AL  
ESPIONAGE - R

ATT: INSPECTOR CARL HENNRICH

This is confirming our telephone conversation on 7/29/55 at which time Inspector CARL HENNRICH of the Bureau was furnished verbally the results of an interview with former Special Agent EDWARD J. COADY, relative to his initial interview of ELIZABETH BENTLEY in the NHO on 8/23/45.

Former Special Agent COADY, now Security Coordinator, Pratt & Whitney Aircraft Corporation, East Hartford, Conn., was interviewed on 7/28/55 by Special Agents CHARLES E. SANDALL and JOHN A. DANAHER, Jr. Mr. COADY stated that he recalled very clearly an interview which he had with Miss BENTLEY on 8/23/45.

*No LCP.*  
He stated that his interview with Miss BENTLEY took approximately two hours time and during this time he questioned her at great length to find out exactly why she came up to the office. COADY, after hearing her story about Lieutenant PETER HELLER, and having been impressed by Miss BENTLEY that she was of more than average intelligence, felt that she might have been engaged in activities of a questionable nature and during the interview COADY attempted to veer away from the HELLER story, which COADY felt was a "phony" story, but Miss BENTLEY refused to go into any other matters. COADY advised the Agents that he was greatly concerned about his interview with Miss BENTLEY after she left the office because he felt that he had not obtained the true story from her, that a woman of her apparent intelligence would not logically have expected him to believe such a story, and because he was unable to draw from her the real reason for her appearance at the office.

Miss BENTLEY did not indicate to COADY that she was involved in any Russian espionage apparatus nor did she state to him that she was to contact any espionage agent. Therefore, he did not give her any instructions concerning her future conduct, such as advising that she continue her contacts with espionage agents or that she get in touch with the New York Office.

6 Registered Mail  
Aug 2 1955

3 152 (3)

*Orig Belmont*

NOT RECORDED

165 AUG 4 1955

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 65-50402-177

NH 65-1149

He merely advised Miss BENTLEY that he could not advise her about the legitimacy of Lieutenant PETER HELLER nor could he tell her whether she should cooperate with him.

COADY volunteered that it was his impression, following Miss BENTLEY's disclosure of her activities to the Bureau, that she submitted to an interview with him for the purpose of find out if the FBI was aware of her activities and were possibly following her around in Conn. and that her story about Lieutenant HELLER was merely a "fishing expedition" to find out how much the FBI knew about her. He added that he would be willing to testify to the accuracy of the data, if need be.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson

FROM : L. B. Nichols

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH BENTLEY

DATE: 8/8/55

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_

Boardman \_\_\_\_\_

Nichols \_\_\_\_\_

Belmont \_\_\_\_\_

Mohr \_\_\_\_\_

Parsons \_\_\_\_\_

Rosen \_\_\_\_\_

Tamm \_\_\_\_\_

Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_

Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_

Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_

Holloman \_\_\_\_\_

Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Bob Morris, on 8/3/55, informed me that Elizabeth Bentley was very much upset since her negotiations with Internal Revenue Service had apparently bogged down. A Mr. Hennessy, of Internal Revenue, was designated to work out a compromise settlement and after several conferences during the week of 7/18/55, it was necessary to suspend the discussions until Hennessy could get the Internal Revenue file from New Orleans. He asked for it but has not as yet been able to receive it.

Morris stated that he was going to call Coleman Andrews unless I thought he should not. I told him that in view of his previous conversations with Andrews, I thought most assuredly he should call him. In the meantime, the Bureau received a teletype from New Haven under date of 8/4/55, pointing out that Elizabeth Bentley had advised the agents of the delay and that she was fed up and "is ready to blow up the works." The agents in New Haven quieted her down.

I called William Rogers as he was getting ready to leave and he suggested that I talk to Robert Minor. I talked to Minor and Minor stated that he would get busy immediately and talk with David Kendall with whom the Department has been dealing. Minor informed me on 8/8/55, that he had talked to Kendall. Kendall could not understand the delay and reported back to Minor that they could expect the file in New York momentarily. Kendall reiterated he could not understand the delay. Minor stated that he was quite vigorous in his comments to Kendall.

Subsequently, Bob Morris called me to advise that he had finally succeeded in talking to Coleman Andrews and Andrews raised the question as to whether he should be responsible for handling a routine matter such as this. Morris apparently told Andrews off and told him that since they could not get service he most assuredly was responsible and pointed out the reasons and Andrews agreed that this was probably true and stated he would check into the matter immediately. So, in view of above, maybe the forces of lethargy can be overcome eventually.

cc - Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Belmont

RECORDED - 14

AUG 11 1955

LBN:fc (4)

134-435-178

JENSEN

60 AUG 15 1955

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 10 1955

TELETYPE

Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Sizoo	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

FBI NEW HAVEN

8-10-55

7-53 PM

NLA

DIRECTOR

ATT. ASST DIR. L. B. NICHOLS AND A. H. BELMONT

URGENT

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY, CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE. MISS BENTLEY AGAIN TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED SA C. E. SANDALL OF THIS OFFICE TODAY TO REQUEST BUREAU DO WHAT IT CAN TO HELP RESOLVE HER TAX DIFFICULTIES. SHE EXPLAINED SHE HAD EMPLOYED NEW YORK TAX ATTORNEY, MIKE KENNY, FORMER INTERNAL REVENUE AGENT, TO HELP HER IN OFFER AND COMPROMISE AGREEMENT WITH INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE. KENNY FELT GOVERNMENT WOULD PROBABLY SETTLE WITH HER FOR TEN PER CENT OF AMOUNT DUE AND BENTLEY HAD BELIEVED SHE COULD BORROW THIS SUM. ROBERT MORRIS CALLED HER LAST NIGHT, ADVISING HE WOULD BE OUT OF TOUCH WITH HER DUE TO IMPENDING DEATH OF HIS FATHER BUT HE HAD LEARNED IRS APPARENTLY DEMANDS SHE SELL HER HOUSE IN MADISON, THAT IRS WILL NOT RELEASE HER LEVIED BANK ACCOUNT IN LOUISIANA, AND WILL NOT AUTHORIZE ANY PUBLIC APOLOGY OR RETRACTION IN LOUISIANA NEWSPAPERS. IRS WOULD CONSIDER ONLY WRITING TO SACRED HEART COLLEGE IN LOUISIANA RE HER JOB. BENTLEY CONSIDERS THIS ARRANGEMENT MOST UNSATISFACTORY AS, ONE, SHE HAS BEEN TRYING TO SELL HER HOUSE SINCE NINETEEN HUNDRED AND FIFTY TWO AND ITS CONDITION PRECLUDES FAVORABLE EVALUATION FOR SALE., TWO, ALTHOUGH SHE WOULD PROBABLY RETAIN HER JOB AT THE SCHOOL, THE LEVY ON HER PERSONAL FUNDS WOULD EMBARRASS HER., THREE, SHE WOULD STILL BE CONSIDERED A

\* CORRECTION \* TIME SENT SHLD BE 6-53 PM

END PAGE ONE....

Trans Cleveland to Belmont 28 AUG 19 1955

" Atty Gen. cc. - Rosen & Thompson  
8/11/55 EPT/...

(581)

PAGE TWO....

TAX DODGER AND HER REPUTATION AS GOVERNMENT WITNESS WOULD SUFFER IRREPARABLE HARM. BENTLEY AGAIN STATED SHE FEELS TIME IS RUNNING OUT AND THAT THIS MATTER WILL NOT BE SETTLED IN TIME FOR HER TO RESUME EMPLOYMENT. ROBERT MORRIS ASSURED HER HE HAD TALKED TO COLEMAN ANDREWS OF TREASURY DEPARTMENT AND THAT HER CASE HAD BEEN FIXED UP. NOW SHE FEELS IT HAS BEEN PASSED DOWN TO IRRESPONSIBLE HANDS NOT COGNIZANT OF HER PECULIAR SITUATION. AS BUREAU HAS ADVISED, THIS OFFICE HAS NOT ASSURED OR EVEN IMPLIED THAT IT CAN DO ANYTHING FOR BENTLEY ON HER TAX PROBLEM BUT HAS ADVISED HER THAT IT WOULD FORWARD ANY PERTINENT DATA TO APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES IN WASHINGTON. SHE UNDERSTANDS BUREAU-S POSITION AND IS GRATEFUL FOR OUR ASSISTANCE. IN THIS LAST CALL, SHE DID NOT EXHIBIT THREATENING ATTITUDE AS TO HER CONDUCT AS A GOVERNMENT WITNESS BUT WAS FEARFUL OF HER FUTURE VALUE IF THIS PROBLEM IS NOT RESOLVED SATISFACTORILY. ABOVE IS FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND ACTION YOU DEEM APPROPRIATE. THIS OFFICE WILL CONTINUE TO CONTACT MISS BENTLEY AND SEVERAL INTERVIEWS WITH HER ARE PENDING. WILL KEEP BUREAU ADVISED OF ANY PERTINENT DEVELOPMENTS.

CASPER

END

7-04 PM OK FBI WA JS

DISCHOLD

OK

CO. MR. BELMONT  
AND SUPERVISOR  
DOM. INTEL. DIVISION

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 10 1955  
TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_

FBI NEW HAVEN 8-10-55 6-53 PM NLA

DIRECTOR ATT. ASST DIR. L. B. NICHOLS AND A. H. ZELTZER

URGENT

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY, CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE. MISS BENTLEY AGAIN  
TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED SA C. E. SANDALL OF THIS OFFICE TODAY TO  
REQUEST BUREAU DO WHAT IT CAN TO HELP RESOLVE HER TAX DIFFICULTIES.  
SHE EXPLAINED SHE HAD EMPLOYED NEW YORK TAX ATTORNEY, MIKE KENNY,  
FORMER INTERNAL REVENUE AGENT, TO HELP HER IN OFFER AND COMPROMISE  
AGREEMENT WITH INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE. KENNY FELT GOVERNMENT  
WOULD PROBABLY SETTLE WITH HER FOR TEN PER CENT OF AMOUNT DUE AND  
BENTLEY HAD BELIEVED SHE COULD BORROW THIS SUM. ROBERT MORRIS, CALLED  
HER LAST NIGHT, ADVISING HE WOULD BE OUT OF TOUCH WITH HER DUE TO  
IMPENDING DEATH OF HIS FATHER BUT HE HAD LEARNED IRS APPARENTLY DEMANDS  
SHE SELL HER HOUSE IN MADISON, THAT IRS WILL NOT RELEASE HER LEVIED BANK  
ACCOUNT IN LOUISIANA, AND WILL NOT AUTHORIZE ANY PUBLIC APOLOGY OR  
RETRACTION IN LOUISIANA NEWSPAPERS. IRS WOULD CONSIDER ONLY WRITING  
TO SACRED HEART COLLEGE IN LOUISIANA RE HER JOB. BENTLEY CONSIDERS  
THIS ARRANGEMENT MOST UNSATISFACTORY AS, ONE, SHE HAS BEEN TRYING TO  
SELL HER HOUSE SINCE NINETEEN HUNDRED AND FIFTY TWO AND ITS CONDITION  
PRECLUDES FAVORABLE EVALUATION FOR SALE., TWO, ALTHOUGH SHE WOULD  
PROBABLY RETAIN HER JOB AT THE SCHOOL, THE LEVY ON HER PERSONAL  
FUNDS WOULD EMBARRASS HER., THREE, SHE WOULD STILL BE CONSIDERED A

\* CORRECTION \*

TIME 8:00 PM  
RECEIVED

END PAGE ONE....



PAGE TWO....

TAX LODGER AND HER REPUTATION AS GOVERNMENT WITNESS WOULD SUFFER IRREPARABLE HARM. BENTLEY AGAIN STATED SHE FEELS TIME IS RUNNING OUT AND THAT THIS MATTER WILL NOT BE SETTLED IN TIME FOR HER TO RESUME EMPLOYMENT. ROBERT MORRIS ASSURED HER HE HAD TALKED TO COLEMAN ANDREWS OF TREASURY DEPARTMENT AND THAT HER CASE HAD BEEN FIXED UP. NOW SHE FEELS IT HAS BEEN PASSED DOWN TO IRRESPONSIBLE HANDS NOT COGNIZANT OF HER PECULIAR SITUATION. AS BUREAU HAS ADVISED, THIS OFFICE HAS NOT ASSURED OR EVEN IMPLIED THAT IT CAN DO ANYTHING FOR BENTLEY ON HER TAX PROBLEM BUT HAS ADVISED HER THAT IT WOULD FORWARD ANY PERTINENT DATA TO APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES IN WASHINGTON. SHE UNDERSTANDS BUREAU-S POSITION AND IS GRATEFUL FOR OUR ASSISTANCE. IN THIS LAST CALL, SHE DID NOT EXHIBIT THREATENING ATTITUDE AS TO HER CONDUCT AS A GOVERNMENT WITNESS BUT WAS FEARFUL OF HER FUTURE VALUE IF THIS PROBLEM IS NOT RESOLVED SATISFACTORILY. ABOVE IS FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND ACTION YOU DEEM APPROPRIATE. THIS OFFICE WILL CONTINUE TO CONTACT MISS BENTLEY AND SEVERAL INTERVIEWS WITH HER ARE PENDING. WILL KEEP BUREAU ADVISED OF ANY PERTINENT DEVELOPMENTS.

CASPER

END

7-04 PM OK FBI WA JS

DISCHOLD

OK

ORIGINAL-DIRECTOR

Boardman  
Nichols  
Belmont  
Branigan  
August 11, 1955  
Jensen

The Attorney General (orig. & 1)

134-435-179

Director, FBI

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY DECLASSIFIED BY 6428  
CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE

ON 2/27/78

3721

Reference is made to my previous memoranda in this matter which set forth information regarding Bentley's current problem with the Internal Revenue Service.

For your further information, Bentley advised a representative of this Bureau on August 10, 1955, that she had employed a New York tax attorney, Mike Kenny, a former Internal Revenue agent, to help her in an offer and compromise agreement with the Internal Revenue Service. Her attorney, Kenny, felt that the Government would probably settle with her for ten per cent of the amount due. Bentley believed she could borrow this sum.

Robert Morris, former Chief Counsel of the Jenner Committee and presently a New York City judge, who has been assisting Bentley in connection with her tax problem, told me on August 9, 1955, that he had learned the Internal Revenue Service apparently will demand that she sell her house in Madison, Connecticut, will not release her levied bank account in Louisiana, and will not authorize any public apology or retraction in Louisiana newspapers. Morris also advised he learned the Internal Revenue Service would consider only writing to the Sacred Heart College in Louisiana regarding Bentley's job. Bentley advised she considers this arrangement most unsatisfactory as, first, she has been trying to sell her house since 1952 and its condition precludes favorable evaluation for sale; second, although she would probably retain her job at the school, the levy on her personal funds would embarrass her; third, she would still be considered a tax dodger and her reputation as a Government witness would suffer irreparable harm.

Bentley again stated that she feels time is running out and that her tax problem will not be settled in time for her to resume employment in the fall. Robert Morris assured her

RGJ:ERT:em

CC 100-363704 (Fitzgerald)

CONFIDENTIAL

AUGER memo Cleveland to Belmont dated 8/11/55 captioned "EDWARD JOSEPH FITZGERALD, IS-R, "WVD:em  
(11)

Tolson  
Boardman  
Nichols  
Belmont  
Harbo  
Mohr  
Parsons  
Rosen  
Tamm  
Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Holloman  
Gandy

SENT FROM D.O.

TIME 6:05 PM

DATE 8/12/55

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY SLIP(S) OF Documentation

DATE 3/17/78

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

37222

**Memorandum for the Attorney General**

that he had talked to Coleman Andrews of the Treasury Department and that her case had been "fired up." Bentley indicated she felt her tax problem had been passed down to irresponsible hands not cognizant of her peculiar situation.

Our New Haven office advised on August 11, 1955, that Bentley had been served with a subpoena on that date by the Deputy United States Marshal requiring her appearance in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York on August 18, 1955, at 10:30 a.m., in the case involving Edward Joseph Fitzgerald. The subpoena was issued at the request of Milton H. Friedman, attorney for Fitzgerald. Bentley advised that she can positively identify Fitzgerald as a personal espionage contact of hers in the Perlo group. She further stated that she believes the defense in the Fitzgerald case will seize upon her current income tax problem in an attempt to discredit her. She feels that if she is discredited it will reflect most unfavorably on Vice President Richard M. Nixon, the Attorney General and the Director of the FBI, who, she states, previously have commented on the value of her testimony and the espionage activities which she has brought to light.

Upon receipt of this information from our New Haven office, we notified our New York office to advise the United States Attorney in New York regarding the subpoena of Bentley and Mr. William E. Foley of the Internal Security Division was telephonically advised.

We have informed Miss Bentley that her comments will be brought to the attention of the appropriate authorities.

CC: 1 - Mr. William F. Rogers  
Deputy Attorney General

1 - Assistant Attorney General  
William F. Tompkins

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

BULKY EXHIBIT - INVENTORY OF PROPERTY ACQUIRED AS EVIDENCE

Bufile:

NY

Field Division

65-56402

August 1, 1955 Date

Title and Character of Case:

NATHAN GREGORY SILVERMASTER, WAS ETAL  
ESP-R

Date Property Acquired:

11/17/45

Source From Which Property Acquired:

Elizabeth T. Bentley

Location of Property or Bulky Exhibit:

Manufacturers Trust Co.

Reason for Retention of Property and  
Efforts Made to Dispose of Same:

Held by New York Office per  
Bureau instructions.

Description of Property or Exhibit and  
Identity of Agent Submitting Same:

SA T. Spencer

18. One-hundred (100) \$20.00 bills, totaling \$2,000.00

134-435-  
NOT RECORDED

110 MAY 28 1958

Concussion in  
Place cc in  
134-435 (Kenny file)  
RCI sk 155

MAY 28 1958

Field File #: 65-14603 (#1)

CC: 66-6649

64 AUG 9 1955

145-56402  
NOT RECORDED  
133 AUG 8 1955

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 65-52402-57

**TELETYPE**

**6-49P**

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-363704-42

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 11 1955

TELETYPE

Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Sizoo	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

FBI NEW HAVEN

8-11-55

5-07 PM

DIRECTOR, FBI AND SAC NEW YORK

URGENT

EDWARD FITZGERALD, IS-R. RE BUREAU TELEPHONE CALL TO NEW HAVEN

TODAY. DEPUTY USM, NEW HAVEN, SERVED SUBPOENA THIS AFTERNOON ON ELIZABETH BENTLEY REQUIRING HER APPEARANCE USDC, SDNY, NYC, AUGUST EIGHTEEN, TEN THIRTY A. M. SUBPOENA ISSUED ON REQUEST OF MILTON H. FRIEDMAN, ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANT FITZGERALD. BENTLEY STATES CAN POSITIVELY IDENTIFY FITZGERALD AS ESPIONAGE CONTACT OF HERS IN PERLO GROUP. SHE BELIEVES DEFENSE WILL SEIZE ON HER INCOME TAX PROBLEM IN ATTEMPT TO DISCREDIT HER, AND STRONGLY FEELS IF SHE IS DISCREDITED IT WILL REFLECT MOST UNFAVORABLY ON DIRECTOR, ATTORNEY GENERAL AND VICE PRESIDENT NIXON, WHO HAVE PUBLICLY COMMENTED ON VALUE OF HER TESTIMONY AND ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES SHE HAS BROUGHT TO LIGHT. BENTLEY SUGGESTS BUREAU LEARN, IF POSSIBLE, MOTIVE OF DEFENSE IN SUBPOENAING HER. REQUESTS URGENT ATTENTION TO RESOLVING INCOME TAX SITUATION. BENTLEY WAS ADVISED HER REQUEST WOULD BE RELAYED TO BUREAU. BENTLEY INDICATES THAT AS WITNESS SHE WILL BE HOSTILE TO DEFENDANT FITZGERALD AND EXPRESSES CONCERN THAT FACT SHE HAS BEEN SUBPOENAED FOR DEFENSE MIGHT BE MISCONSTRUED AS INDICATING SHE WOULD BE SYMPATHETIC WITNESS FOR DEFENSE.

134-435-✓  
NOT RECORDED

176 AUG 13 1955

ENC 11 2 NO BH.22

ENDBAND ACK FOR TWO  
REC'D BY POLICE  
NY TO BE ADVI

*Memo prepared on this  
8/11/55  
Let to AG, Rogers & Coughlin  
8/11/55*

ORIGINAL-DIRECTOR

5-2XXX 5-12 PM OK FBI WA WS R 2

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-363704-11

REC



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 12 1955

TELETYPE

8-12-55

QW 12-43 PM

Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Sizoo	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

**BRANIGAN**

FBI NEW HAVEN

DIRECTOR, FBI AND SAC, NEW YORK

U R G E N T

EDWARD J. FITZGERALD, IS- R. RE TELEPHONE CALL BUREAU TO NEW HAVEN THIS MORNING. MR. JOHN KEENEY, DEPARTMENTAL ATTORNEY AT NEW HAVEN FOR SMITH ACT PROSECUTIONS, CONTACTED THIS OFFICE ELEVEN A. M. TODAY TO OBTAIN ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY. KEENEY EXPECTS TO CONTACT BENTLEY TODAY TO EXPLAIN TO HER THAT DEPARTMENT WILL ENDEAVOR TO QUASH SUBPOENA FOR BENTLEY AND IS OPTIMISTIC ABOUT ACCOMPLISHING THAT PURPOSE. KEENEY EXPLAINED THAT THE DEPARTMENT ELIZABETH BELIEVES BENTLEY- S TESTIMONY WOULD BE IMMATERIAL AND IRRELEVANT TO THE ACTION AGAINST FITZGERALD FOR CONTEMPT IN REFUSING TO ACCEPT IMMUNITY AND TESTIFY BEFORE A GRAND JURY. KEENEY WAS FURNISHED BENTLEY- S ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER AND WAS GIVEN DIRECTIONS FOR REACHING HER RESIDENCE.

CASPER

END AND ACK PLS

WA 12-48 PM OK FBI WA MES

NY LO OK FBI NY AJM

JISH

ORIGINAL-DIRECTOR

EST - 702 LICE  
REC'D DEFWOHL

57 AUG 19 1955

1134-435-  
NOT RECORDED  
176 AUG 16 1955

47  
363704  
100-363704  
ORIGINAL FILED IN

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 12 1955

TELETYPE

Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Sizoo	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

FBI NEW HAVEN

8-12-55

5-15 PM

DIRECTOR, FBI AND SAC, NEW YORK ...URGENT...

*Brabgon*

EDWARD J. FITZGERALD, IS - R. RENHTEL TO BUREAU AND NY TODAY.

JOHN KEENEY, DEPARTMENTAL ATTORNEY AT NEW HAVEN, ADVISED HE MET WITH ELIZABETH BENTLEY AT HER RESIDENCE, MADISON, CONN.

THIS AFTERNOON. STATES BENTLEY PLEASED WITH THE POSSIBILITY SUBPOENA MAY BE QUASHED. INDICATED BENTLEY BROUGHT UP TAX PROBLEM WITH HIM WHICH HE WILL CALL TO THE ATTENTION OF HIS SUPERIORS IN WASHINGTON, D. C.

CASPER

1 134-435- ✓  
NOT RECORDED  
176 AUG 16 1955

AS ADVISED

END

XXXXXX CORR. NY ADVISED

END

5-18 PM OK FBI WA 8-12-55

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

AUG 18 1955

REC'D RECHG

*orig Belmont*

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-363704-4

LAW OFFICES  
BYRON N. SCOTT

ASSOCIATES  
RICHARD A. MENLER  
HYMAN SMOLLAR  
STANLEY S. FROSH

STEALING 1-1835

WYATT BUILDING

77 FOURTEENTH STREET

WASHINGTON, D. C.

August 1, 1955

Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Sizoo  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

J. Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I have your letter of July 28, 1955 in reply to mine of July 25. I note that you have referred the matter raised by me to the Attorney General. I have today asked the International Organizations Employees Loyalty Board to propound the same questions to you. This request was made pursuant to the suggestion in the second paragraph of your letter, a copy of which I have sent to that Board.

May I now say, sir, that I think that in the Bentley-Taylor case, your statement that I will "recognize that information from the files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation cannot be made available to persons not authorized to receive such matter" will be considered unacceptable for the following reasons:

1. In my July 25, 1955 letter to you I quoted Miss Bentley's testimony before a Congressional Committee verbatim. I based my questions on it.

2. Part 16 of the Hearings before the Subcommittee to investigate the administration of the Internal Security Act, titled "Interlocking Subversion in Government Departments" reports at page 1145 that you, when you appeared before it on November 17, 1953, made the following statement:

In connection with the sources, I would like to mention one in particular, Miss Elizabeth Bentley. From the very outset, we established that she had been in a position to report facts relative to Soviet Espionage which she had done. We knew she was in contact with a top-ranking Soviet espionage agent, Anatoli Gromov, the first secretary of the Soviet Embassy in Washington, D. C., as late as November 21, 1945, in New York City, as late as a previous meeting on October 17, 1945, Gromov had given her \$2,000 to carry forth her work as an espionage agent.

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-370362-157

ENCLOSURE

NOT RECORDED

AUG 18 1955

J. Edgar Hoover, Director  
Page Two  
August 1, 1955

"All information furnished by Miss Bentley, which was susceptible to check, has proven to be correct."

3. You and Miss Bentley have, therefore, made "information from the files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation" public in the instance of the \$2,000. My questions were based on these public statements made by Miss Bentley which you publicly affirmed and vouched for.

In conclusion, sir, may I ask what "policy considerations" are involved in asking the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to document his public accusations against citizens of the United States?

Sincerely yours,

  
BYRON N. SCOTT

BNS:bms



Mr. L. V. Boardman

August 2, 1955

Mr. A. H. Belmont

**WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR**  
**ESPIONAGE - R**

Taylor is an employee of the International Monetary Fund. International Organizations Employees Loyalty Board (IOELB) - Civil Service Commission on 6-29-55, forwarded to State Department its advisory opinion on Taylor's case, concluding that there is reasonable doubt as to his loyalty.

Attached is a copy of a second letter dated 8-1-55 to the Director from Byron H. Scott, attorney for Taylor. In his first letter to the Director dated 7-25-55 in this matter, Scott propounded eight questions concerning a meeting between Elizabeth Bentley and Anatoli Gromov on 10-17-45, as testified to by Bentley before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in 1948. We replied to Scott's first letter on 7-28-55, stating that his request for information from our files was being referred to the Attorney General. In his second letter dated 8-1-55, Scott states he has referred our letter to him dated 7-28-55, to the IOELB with the request that the Board ask these same eight questions of the Bureau. In his 8-1-55 letter, Scott states our reply to him on 7-28-55 claims that information from our files cannot be made available to persons not authorized to receive such information. Scott states this is not acceptable to him. He states he has based his eight questions on Bentley's testimony before a Congressional committee and on the Director's testimony of 11-17-53, before the Subcommittee to Investigate the Administration of the Internal Security Act (Jenner Committee). We have checked the Director's testimony as quoted by Scott and find that Scott has quoted it accurately. Page 1142 of the Jenner Committee hearings on 11-17-53, indicates that the chairman, Senator Jenner, stated that the Director appeared at that time in response to a request made to the Attorney General by the Subcommittee.

100-370362

Enclosures

Distributors:

Boardman

Nichols

Belmont

Brannigan

Stanley

Jensen

1-4-45 (Bentley)

65-50402 (Gregory)

(9)

ERT:BJW:mp

134-435-V  
NOT RECORDED  
176 AUG 18 1955

SENT DIRECTOR  
8/7/55

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-370362-137

Memorandum for Mr. Boardman

In his 8-1-55 letter, Scott indicates that since the Director publicly testified that Bentley received \$2,000 from Anatoli Gromov of the Soviet Embassy on 10-17-45, that he (Scott) is entitled to answers to his eight questions, all of which relate to the alleged meeting on 10-17-45. Scott concludes his letter by asking "what policy considerations are involved in asking the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to document his public accusations against citizens of the United States?"

It is noted that the Director did not mention William Henry Taylor in his 11-17-53 testimony before the Jenner Committee and it appears clear that Scott intends to continue his attack on Bentley's credibility since his letters are not directed at the truth or falsity of allegations made against Taylor.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

(1). Attached is a letter of acknowledgment to Scott suggesting that if he desires to discuss this matter further he communicate with the Attorney General.



**Memorandum for Mr. Boardman**

(2) Attached is letter to Attorney General with cc for Deputy Attorney General Rogers and Assistant Attorney General Tompkins furnishing copy of Scott's 8-1-55 letter and copy of our reply.

OK  
H

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The Attorney General

August 4, 1955

134-435-✓

Director, FBI

WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR  
ESPIONAGE - R

DECLASSIFIED BY 6428

ON 2/27/78

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY SLIP(S) OF DECLASSIFICATION  
DATE 3/17/82

Reference is made to my letter to you dated July 28, 1955, forwarding a copy of a letter dated July 25, 1955, which I received from Byron M. Scott, attorney for the subject. In his letter, Scott raised eight questions relative to the report meeting between Elizabeth T. Bentley and Anatoli Gromov of the Soviet Embassy on October 17, 1945, in New York City.

Attached is a copy of a second letter from Mr. Scott, dated August 1, 1955. In this letter, Scott indicates that he has asked the International Organizations Employees Loyalty Board to propound the same eight questions to this Bureau. He also states that my reply to him of July 28, 1955, that information from FBI files cannot be made available to unauthorized persons, is unacceptable. He states that his eight questions are based on Bentley's testimony before a congressional committee and on my statement made November 17, 1953, before the Subcommittee to Investigate the Administration of the Internal Security Act. He indicates that since it was publicly stated that Bentley received \$2,000 from Gromov on October 17, 1945, he should be given answers to his eight questions which relate to this meeting.

In our reply to Scott, a copy of which is attached, I have suggested that if he desires to discuss this matter further he should communicate with you.

In the event we receive an inquiry from the International Organizations Employees Loyalty Board in connection with this matter, you will be immediately advised.

100-370362

SENT FROM D. O.  
TIME 6:15 PM  
DATE 8/4/55  
BY [signature]

Enclosures (2)

Tolson  
Boardman  
Nichols  
Belmont  
Mohr  
Parsons  
Rosen  
Tamm  
Sizoo  
Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Holloman  
Gandy

1 - Mr. William P. Rogers (Enclosures - 2)  
Deputy Attorney General  
1 - Assistant Attorney General (Enclosures - 2)  
William F. Tompkins

ERT:LVB:wmj. SEE COVER MEMO from Belmont to Boardman,  
(11) same caption, 8/2/55, ERT:ROJ:mp

CONFIDENTIAL

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-510362

August 4, 1955

134-435 - ✓  
Mr. Byron N. Scott  
Wyatt Building  
777 Fourteenth Street, N. W.  
Washington 5, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of your  
letter dated August 1, 1955.

Your original communication dated  
July 25, 1955, and this most recent communi-  
cation have been referred to the Attorney  
General. If you desire to discuss this matter  
further, I suggest you communicate with the  
Attorney General.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

100-370362 (Wm. Henry Taylor)  
LVB:wmj (12) *Wm*

Cover memo Belmont to Boardman prepared by ERT:RGJ:rmp  
on 8/2/55 in connection with this outgoing mail.

CC ✓ 1-134-435 (Bentley)  
1 - 65-56402 (Gregory)

- 1 - The Attorney General (by separate cover)
- 1 - Mr. William P. Rogers (by separate cover)  
Deputy Atty. General
- 1 - Assistant Atty. General (by separate cover)  
William F. Tompkins

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

330  
61 AUG 19 1955

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-370362-133

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson

FROM : L. B. Nichols

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH BENTLEY

DATE: August 13, 1955

Tolson	✓
Boardman	✓
Nichols	✓
Belmont	✓
Mohr	✓
Parsons	✓
Rosen	✓
Tamm	✓
Sizoo	✓
Winterrowd	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Holloman	✓
Gandy	✓

With reference to statements which Elizabeth Bentley has made to Agents of the New Haven Office pertaining to her income tax difficulties, I wish to record that I have called these to the attention of Robert Minor who was very much exercised over the delay in the Internal Revenue in working up a settlement.

On the first occasion I talked to Minor, the New Orleans file on Bentley had not been received in New York and Minor talked to David Kendall, formerly General Counsel and now Assistant Secretary, over the weekend of July 30th. He subsequently informed me that Kendall could not understand the delay, he had talked to the Treasury people and he had been assured that this matter would be handled momentarily.

On August 11th I talked to Minor further. He stated that he would take the matter up further with David Kendall. In the meantime, Bob Morris and George Sokolsky called me after Elizabeth Bentley had talked to them and informed them that Internal Revenue would not settle unless Elizabeth Bentley liquidated all her assets including her house in Madison, Connecticut. Both were exercised over this. Bob Morris called me on Friday evening, August 12th, to advise that he had been in New York that day and had spoken to Godfrey Schmidt, who was representing Elizabeth Bentley. Schmidt informed Morris that the situation was not nearly as bad as that represented by Bentley and that in the conference the statement had been made that there were many difficulties involved in working out this settlement; that one of the difficulties was in working out a settlement so long as she had a house; however, the Internal Revenue people did not make any ultimatum or state as a condition that she would have to divest herself of the house; that Schmidt did not feel that this would be necessary and that as of the present time the situation was not as bad as that painted by Bentley, although it could become that bad in the future; however, Schmidt doubted it. Schmidt is presently preparing new forms to handle this matter and told Morris that definitely Bentley has overstated the Internal Revenue situation in his opinion.

cc - Mr. Boardman  
cc - Mr. Belmont

LBN:ptm  
(4)

RECORDED-16

50 AUG 23 1955

134-435-180  
AUG 16 1955

134-435

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. A. H. Belmont

DATE: August 1, 1955

FROM : Mr. W. A. Branigan

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY  
SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Tolson	
Boardman	
Nichols	
Belmont	
Mohr	
Nease	
Parsons	
Rosen	
Tamm	
Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Holloman	
Gandy	

By memorandum 6-6-55 you were advised that Bentley was interviewed at her request on 6-5-55 at the Bureau. She was interviewed regarding a number of charges made by William Henry Taylor in a lengthy brief filed before the International Organizations Employees Loyalty Board on 3-28-55.

One of the points covered during this interview of Bentley concerned when she first advised the FBI of her activities. Taylor in his lengthy brief charged Bentley testified she told the FBI her story in New Haven in August, 1945, and yet the FBI has given the date as 11-7-45. Bentley on 6-5-55 said she went to the New Haven office in August, 1945, and told an agent about Peter Heller, a man she suspected might be a Government agent. She said the agent to whom she talked was noncommittal and she did not furnish him any detailed information. She said she was told the matter would be referred to our New York office. It was not until September or October, 1945, she contacted the New York office. Bentley claims, in addition, to telling the New York agent about the Heller matter she also told him about a forthcoming meeting with one of her contacts and the agent told her to go ahead and carry out the meet. The 6-6-55 memorandum said we were making a further check of our files on this point. Our files show Bentley did not furnish details regarding her espionage activities until 11-7-45. To further clarify this, a letter 6-23-55, was sent to New Haven requesting Bentley be reinterviewed.

By letter 7-25-55, New Haven furnished results of reinterview of Bentley. She conceded it was not until 11-7-45 that she gave a detailed account of her involvement in Soviet espionage. She said her visit to the New Haven office in October, 1945, was a "feeling out process." She realized that during the New Haven interview she was not making true

134-435

CC:

Mr. Belmont

Mr. Branigan

Mr. Jensen

65-370362 (Taylor)

65-56402 (Gregory)

RECORDED - 25  
FX-121134-435-187  
5 PC  
21 AUG 11 195571 AUG 29 1955  
(6)

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 65-56402

Memorandum for Mr. Belmont:

significance of her visit clear. Her contact with the New York office was delayed by an illness of three weeks and by the fact her residence was changed. Bentley was still of opinion she told the New York agent of her scheduled meet with Gromov on 10-17-45, and the agent suggested to her that she not do anything to interrupt this relationship. It was on this basis she testified she was under FBI guidance when she met Gromov on the following day and received \$2,000 from him.

Former SAs Edward J. Coady and Frank C. Aldrich, Jr., who interviewed Bentley in New Haven and New York, respectively, were reinterviewed on 7-28-51. Both stated they recalled the interviews but Bentley at no time made any comment regarding any forthcoming contact with any Russian agent.

During ~~initial~~ interview on 11-7-45, Bentley did tell of contact to be held with Gromov on 11-9-45. New York tel 11-8-45, covering initial interview, pointed out arrangements being perfected with cooperation of Miss Bentley to have full surveillance coverage of this meeting in effort to identify "Al" (Gromov). Possibility exists Bentley confused on dates. She may believe she told of 10-17-45 meet on 10-16-45. She did not mention above but did tell us on 11-7-45 of meet coming up on 11-9-45.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. For your information.



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 17 1955

TELETYPE

Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Sizoo  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

NEW HAVEN

8-17-55

1-53 PM

DIRECTOR, FBI AND SAC, NEW YORK

URGENT

EDWARD J. FITZGERALD, IS - R. RE TELEPHONE CALL TO MR. CLEVELAND

AT BUREAU THIS MORNING. ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY TELEPHONED NEW HAVEN  
OFFICE TEN A. M. TODAY TO ADVISE THAT SINCE YESTERDAY EDDIE FOX OF  
THE NEW HAVEN EVENING REGISTER HAD BEEN TELEPHONICALLY ATTEMPTING  
TO CONTACT BENTLEY. BENTLEY WAS NOT HOME WHEN ANY OF FOX'S CALLS  
WERE RECEIVED AND SHE HAD NOT YET SPOKEN TO HIM. FOX LEFT WORD  
AT BENTLEY'S RESIDENCE IF BENTLEY DESIRED TO CHECK ON HIS BONA FIDE  
STATUS WITH EVENING REGISTER SHE COULD CONTACT ASSISTANT U. S. ATTORNEY  
MCNAMARA, NEW HAVEN. BENTLEY STATED THAT BEFORE RECEIVING ANY INQUIRY  
HERSELF FROM FOX SHE DESIRED TO KNOW THE STATUS OF THE SUBPOENA FOR  
HER APPEARANCE IN USDC, SDNY, IN THE FITZGERALD CASE. SHE STATED SHE  
HAD NOT RECEIVED ANY INFORMATION FROM MR. JOHN KEENEY, DEPARTMENTAL  
ATTORNEY NOW AT NEW HAVEN FOR SMITH ACT PROSECUTIONS SINCE HE HAD  
PREVIOUSLY CONTACTED HER TWELFTH INSTANT. SHE STATED SHE DID NOT KNOW HOW  
TO REACH KEENEY. BENTLEY WAS ADVISED HER INQUIRY WOULD BE RELAYED TO  
KEENEY. KEENEY WAS IMMEDIATELY CONTACTED. HE STATED HE HAD NOT  
RECEIVED INFORMATION FROM DEPARTMENT REGARDING STATUS OF SUBPOENA.  
HE STATED HE WOULD CONTACT BENTLEY IMMEDIATELY AND INFORM HER THAT

END OF PAGE ONE

NOT RECORDED

19 AUG 26 1955

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

68 AUG 31 1955

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-363701-58

PAGE TWO

HE WOULD MAKE IMMEDIATE TELEPHONIC INQUIRY TO THE DEPARTMENT REGARDING STATUS OF SUBPOENA AND WOULD RECONTACT BENTLEY SUBSEQUENTLY. EDDIE FOX IS KNOWN TO BE A REPORTER FOR THE NEW HAVEN EVENING REGISTER. KEENEY SUBSEQUENTLY ADVISED THIS OFFICE ELEVEN FIFTEEN A. M. HE HAD TELEPHONED DEPARTMENT AND RECEIVED FOLLOWING INFORMATION FROM DEPARTMENT - HEARING BEING HELD ELEVEN THIRTY A. M. THIS MORNING NYC, ON MOTION TO QUASH SUBPOENA REQUIRING BENTLEY-S APPEARANCE IN USDC, SDNY, EIGHTEENTH INSTANT. KEENEY STATED HE TELEPHONED BENTLEY TO ADVISE HER CONCERNING THIS. KEENEY CONTACTED THIS OFFICE AT TWELVE FORTY FIVE P. M. AND ADVISED THAT SUBPOENA HAD BEEN QUASHED AND THAT BENTLEY HAD BEEN NOTIFIED. KEENEY REQUESTED TO BE ADVISED OF ANY FURTHER PERTINENT DEVELOPMENTS WHICH MIGHT COME TO ATTENTION OF BUREAU OR THIS OFFICE.

CASPER

CORR PAGE 2 LINE 11 WORD 6 SHD BE "NOTIFIED"

NY TO BE ADV

END AND ACK

2-02 PM OK BY WA NRB

V V

ORIGINAL-DIRECTOR

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson *per 9*

FROM : L. B. Nichols *LBN*

SUBJECT: **ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY**  
**CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE**

DATE: August 20, 1955 *H-1*

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*Brankyan*

Robert Minor told me on August 19, 1955, that he had just been informed by an official in Internal Revenue with reference to Elizabeth Bentley that Internal Revenue has no knowledge of any levy and there is no lien on any property of Bentley; that the present status is that an offer for compromise is presently under consideration. *Ch*

After checking, I told Minor that Elizabeth Bentley had a bank account at the Bank of Sunset and Trust Company, Sunset, Louisiana; that a lien was filed on this bank account by Internal Revenue under date of June 2, 1955, signed by the District Director of Internal Revenue and a Senior Collection Officer. Bentley has a copy of this lien. Her first knowledge, however, that her bank account had been levied on was when a check was bounced and inquiry then disclosed that her balance of \$280.76 had been levied and seized by Internal Revenue.

Minor stated he is becoming more and more disgusted with the way Internal Revenue has handled the Elizabeth Bentley matter. Minor further told me that Internal Revenue now states that Elizabeth Bentley's going with the House Committee on Un-American Activities will not help her situation since she will have more money and this fact will have to be taken into consideration in the offer of compromise. Minor stated this, of course, was something that the Department could do nothing about but he did tell Internal Revenue this was a sad situation. *V*

Judge Robert Morris mentioned to me on the night of August 18 that Congressman Ed Willis of Louisiana had become interested in Elizabeth Bentley; that as a result, two members of the House Committee on Un-American Activities are all excited over the action of the Internal Revenue Department treating Bentley as they have and are going to make an issue out of it. As a means of assistance to rehabilitate Bentley they have given her a six-weeks job and are paying her \$750.

cc: Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Belmont

LBN:arm

(4) 5 AUG 30 1955 *101-13*

*Alert advised  
B date in memo  
by letter 8/25/55  
ref*

RECORDED-95

134-435-182  
5-90 *per*  
10 AUG 25 1955

134-435

Memorandum to Mr. Tolson from L. B. Nichols

Morris further told me Victor Lasky, a long-time friend of T. Coleman Andrews, wrote Andrews a letter and sent him a copy of Sunday's Worker which reproduced the tax lien filed on Bentley and Andrews wrote a rather nasty letter to Lasky.

Morris feels very keenly about the manner in which Bentley has been treated.

5/31/62  
JBN



The Attorney General (orig and one)

August 25, 1955

Director, FBI

DECLASSIFIED BY 6428

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY  
SECURITY INFORMANT

ON 2/27/78

Reference is made to my previous memoranda in this matter which set forth certain information regarding Bentley's problem with the Internal Revenue Service.

I thought you would like to know that on August 19, 1955, Bentley advised a representative of the Bureau that she visited Congressman Francis E. Walter (Pennsylvania) on August 18, 1955, during the House Committee on Un-American Activities (HCUA) hearings on Communist infiltration of the radio and theater field in New York City. Bentley said she also spoke to Congressman Edwin E. Willis (Louisiana), also of the HCUA. She said that both Congressmen were anxious to resolve her tax problem quickly and both promised to apply pressure on the Treasury Department. Congressman Walter indicated he would enlist the aid of others, including Senator James O. Eastland (Mississippi).

Bentley also stated she had noticed in the New York papers that the United Nations Hearing Board (the International Organizations Employees Loyalty Board) had agreed to hear new evidence concerning William Henry Taylor in the possession of his attorney, Byron N. Scott. She again expressed the hope that her tax difficulties could be resolved before she might be required to testify in connection with Taylor.

Bentley also stated that she was hired by Congressman Walter on a temporary basis as a staff member of the HCUA. She indicated she was pleased over an assurance she received from Congressman Willis that her appointment to the staff of the HCUA would be publicized in local Louisiana newspapers. She felt that this would offset the unfavorable publicity previously given her tax problem.

RECORDED 42

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO

12 SEP 3 1955

100-370362 (Taylor) EX-121

CONFIDENTIAL

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) DECLASSIFICATION  
DATE 3/1/78 EMT/mb

COMM - FBI  
AUG 26 1955  
MAILED 25

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

SEP 19 1955

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-370362-1

WBS  
RCL

**Letter to the Attorney General**

**The foregoing is for your further information  
in connection with this matter.**

**134-435**

**cc - 1 - Mr. William P. Rogers  
Deputy Attorney General**

**cc - 1 - Assistant Attorney General  
William P. Tompkins**

**NOTE:**

**We have kept the AG, the Deputy AG Rogers and  
AAG Tompkins advised in the past concerning Bentley's  
comments and observations re her tax problem with the  
Internal Revenue Service.**

**- 2 -  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~**



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

New Haven, Conn.

August 19, 1955

Airtel

Transmit the following Teletype message to: DIRECTOR, FBI (134-435)

ATTENTION: L. B. NICHOLS AND  
A. H. BELMONT

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY,  
Confidential Source

This is to advise that BENTLEY telephonically contacted SA CHARLES E. SANDALL, this office, on 8/19/55 to advise that she visited Congressman WALTER in New York City on 8/18/55 during committee hearings on Communist infiltration of radio and theater field, and was hired by WALTER on a temporary basis as a staff member of HCUA. BENTLEY stated she expects to receive by mail from Washington, D. C. HCUA documents re KLAUS FUCHS case, on which she is to do some research.

(Should be HERBERT FUCHS) (RED)

BENTLEY also spoke to Congressman WILLIS, Louisiana, on HCUA staff and both he and WALTER were anxious to resolve BENTLEY's tax problem quickly and promised to apply pressure on the Treasury Department. WALTER indicated he would enlist the aid of others, including SENATOR EASTLAND.

For your information, BENTLEY remarked that she is pleased to get other important people "into the act" on her tax situation to "take the load off of LOU NICHOLS, who has been going it alone, apparently."

BENTLEY noted in New York morning papers of instant date that UN Hearing Board had agreed to hear new evidence re WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR in possession of his attorney, BYRON SCOTT. BENTLEY again expressed hope that she could resolve her tax difficulties before she will be required to again testify in the TAYLOR case.

BENTLEY also was pleased over assurance from Congressman WILLIS that her appointment to the staff of HCUA would be publicized in local Louisiana newspapers, which will offset unfavorable publicity given her tax matter.

The above is for your information.

134-40

CES:neb

(4)

REGISTERED MAIL Mr. Belmont

RECORDED - 14

CASPER

134-435

14 AUG 23 1955

SENT DIRECTOR

SEP 1 1955

EX-107

Sent M Per

Special Agent in Charge

PERS. FILES

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (134-435)

DATE: 9/6/55

FROM : SAC, NEW HAVEN (134-40)

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH P. BENTLEY  
CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE

On 9/5/55 Miss BENTLEY advised that she planned to leave Madison, Connecticut, on 9/6/55 and motor to the College of the Sacred Heart at Grand Coteau, Louisiana, where she will resume her teaching position; she plans to arrive there on or about 9/12/55. *Noted 9/5*

The Bureau and New York Office will note the above change of residence so that leads to contact Miss BENTLEY in Security matters may be appropriately routed to the New Orleans Office.

SFD:md  
(5)

cc: New Orleans  
cc: New York

Registered Mail

RECORDED-35

134-435-185  
16 SEP 7 1955

EX-121

FBI

266 15 15 02 14 22

RECEIVED

62 SEP 16 1955

New Haven, Conn.  
August 19, 1955

Airtel

DIRECTOR, FBI (134-435)

ATTENTION: L. B. NICHOLS AND  
A. H. BELMONT

37220

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY,  
Confidential Source

This is to advise that BENTLEY telephonically contacted SA CHARLES E. SANDALL, this office, on 8/19/55 to advise that she visited Congressman WALTER in New York City on 8/18/55 during committee hearings on Communist infiltration of radio and theater field, and was hired by WALTER on a temporary basis as a staff member of HCUA. BENTLEY stated she expects to receive by mail from Washington, D. C. HCUA documents re KLAUS FUCHS case, on which she is to do some research.

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For your information, BENTLEY remarked that she is pleased to get other important people "into the act" on her tax situation to "take the load off of LOU NICHOLS, who has been going it alone, apparently."

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BENTLEY also was pleased over assurance from Congressman WILLIS that her appointment to the staff of HCUA would be publicized in local Louisiana newspapers, which will offset unfavorable publicity given her tax matter.

The above is for your information.

134-435

CES:neb

(4)

REGISTERED MAIL

CASPER

VAC 53 10 11 PM '55

RECEIVED IN OFFICE

SEP 5 1955 15 12 22

RECEIVED TELETYPE UNIT

134-435-184

Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Sizoo  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

Herbert Fuchs  
Klaus Fuchs  
Klaus Fuchs

Bentley  
Klaus Fuchs  
Herbert Fuchs

GP

Orig. M.B.

8/24/55  
cc Parsons  
cc Sizoo  
cc Nichols  
cc Tamm  
cc Rosen  
cc Winterrowd  
cc Harbo  
cc Mohr  
cc Gandy  
cc Holloman  
cc Tamm  
cc Rosen  
cc Winterrowd  
cc Harbo  
cc Mohr  
cc Gandy  
cc Holloman

# Office Memo • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson

DATE: September 1, 1955

FROM : L. B. Nichols

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH BENTLEY

Tolson ☒  
Boardman ☒  
Nichols ☒  
Belmont ☒  
Mohr ☒  
Parsons ☒  
Rosen ☒  
Tamm ☒  
 Sizoo ☒  
Winterrowd ☒  
Tele. Room ☒  
Holloman ☒  
Gandy ☒

*Tuller (info)*

*Dr. J. J. Ryan*

On Sunday, August 28th, Elizabeth Bentley called me to advise that she is becoming more and more concerned over her personal plight. She pointed out that she had been in touch with friends at the Sacred Heart Convent at Sunset, Louisiana; that the embarrassment which occurred earlier in the summer when the Internal Revenue Service seized her bank account has now blown over and she is informed that there is considerable good feeling engendered toward her and that representations have been made that the issue of patriotism and duty entered into her return to the school. She pointed out that the Mother Superior had written to her after a representative of the Department of Justice had called on the Mother Superior to intercede and in short, the Mother Superior told her that this was a matter between Elizabeth Bentley and the Mother Superior and that she would work that out. In this connection, it will be recalled that Robert Minor on the instructions of the Attorney General had an Assistant U. S. Attorney in New Orleans call on the Mother Superior to intercede on behalf of Elizabeth Bentley. Minor subsequently reported to me that everything had worked out and that Elizabeth Bentley would be getting her job back. The school starts on September 12th and, naturally, Bentley is anxious for some definite word. Miss Bentley informed me that she had taken the job as a consultant with the House Committee on Un-American Activities since she felt that this would help her regain her status, but that there has been a delay in adjusting the income tax matter. Bentley was somewhat vague as to exactly what the status was on that score.

On August 30th, Robert Morris informed me that Bentley had told him that everything was settled; that a compromise agreement had been worked out for \$1,000 and that all that remained was for an additional agreement to be worked out with Internal Revenue whereby they would replace the \$258 seized from her bank account. Morris talked to Godfrey Schmidt, who informed him that the papers had been prepared offering \$1,000 in settlement of compromise and that the papers had been submitted to Internal Revenue Agent Hennessey in New York on August 30th. Schmidt, however, was insisting that Internal Revenue agree to replace the \$258 in Bentley's bank account. Morris told me that same day that T. Coleman Andrews was out of town until Friday, September 2nd, and

cc - Mr. Boardman  
cc - Mr. Belmont

RECORDED-20

INDEXED - 20

LBN:ptm  
(4)

63 SEP 13 1955

134-435-186

J. J. JEN

(5)

134-435

Memo for Mr. Tolson from L. B. Nichols

RE: ELIZABETH BENTLEY

he, Morris, was going to talk to Andrews and if Internal Revenue would not agree to putting \$258 back in Bentley's account, then Morris would suggest that friends get up the \$258, refund it to the Internal Revenue and in that way work out the arrangement.

I have informed Robert Minor of the delicate situation and Minor stated that he would follow the matter with the Treasury Department.

*2-4* *file* *10*

# F.B.I. RADIOGRAM

4-428

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Sizoo	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

(b)(2)

FROM NEW HAVEN

9-2-55

NR 022015

5:33 PM

DIRECTOR

DEFERRED

ATT: ASSISTANT DIR. L. B. NICHOLS. ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY,  
CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE. BENTLEY TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED  
THIS OFFICE TODAY ADVISING THAT SHE HAD TELEPHONED MR.  
NICHOLS LAST SUNDAY AND HAD EXPECTED TO HEAR FROM HIM  
THIS PAST WEEK RELATIVE TO THE STATUS OF HER BANK ACCOUNT  
IN LA., HER TAX SITUATION AND HER TEACHING JOB. BENTLEY  
STATED THAT SHE HAD JUST RECEIVED LETTER WRITTEN AUGUST 29,  
1955 BY MOTHER LE PERE OF SACRED HEART COLLEGE, BUT THAT  
LATTER STILL AVOIDS ANY DEFINITE STATEMENT THAT SHE WANTS  
BENTLEY TO RETURN TO SACRED HEART FACULTY. BENTLEY FEELS  
THAT LE PERE MAY BE STALLING, AWAITING A DEFINITE RELEASE  
BY TREASURY DEPT. THAT HER TAX SITUATION HAS BEEN RESOLVED.  
BENTLEY STATED THAT IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT HER TAX STATUS BE  
IMMEDIATELY RESOLVED AND THAT SHE WOULD BE UNABLE TO RETURN  
TO TEACHING POSITION UNLESS SAME HAD BEEN DONE. BENTLEY  
REQUESTED THAT THIS INFORMATION BE FORWARDED TO MR. NICHOLS.

RECEIVED:

9-2-55

6:39 PM

MAP

RECORDED - 7

134-435-187

Mr. Nichols

SEP 19 1955

21 SEP 12 1955

Memo Nichols to T. L. son 9-3-55 LBN

(b)(2)



# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson ✓  
 FROM : L. B. Nichols ✓  
 SUBJECT: ELIZABETH BENTLEY

DATE: September 3, 1955

Tolson ✓  
 Boardman ✓  
 Nichols ✓  
 Belmont ✓  
 Harbo ✓  
 Mohr ✓  
 Parsons ✓  
 Rosen ✓  
 Tamm ✓  
 Sizoo ✓  
 Winterrowd ✓  
 Tele. Room ✓  
 Holloman ✓  
 Gandy ✓

With reference to the radiogram from the New Haven Office dated 9/2/55 advising that Bentley had received a letter dated 8/29/55 from Mother Le Pere of Sacred Heart College avoiding any definite statement about Bentley's return, I wish to advise that I talked to Robert Minor again on the afternoon of September 3, 1955. Minor stated on Tuesday morning he would get a hold of David Kendall of the Treasury Department and try to force the issue of getting this resolved and he would then have either the United States Attorney in New Orleans or an Assistant United States Attorney go out and see Mother Le Pere on Tuesday or Wednesday.

LBN:gjm

(4)

cc: Mr. Boardman  
 Mr. Belmont

✓ JRM

✓

SEP 19 1955

RECORDED

134-435-188

SEP 12 1955

SRGJ

SEP 16 1955

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

NEW HAVEN, CONN.

Airtel

Transmit the following Teletype message to: DIRECTOR, FBI

ELIZABETH P. BENTLEY  
CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE

ATTENTION: Asst. To The Director  
L. B. Nichols

Re radiogram from New Haven to Bureau, 9/2/55 and telephone call of Assistant to the Director L. B. NICHOLS to New Haven on 9/3/55.

On 9/3/55 and again on 9/5/55 Miss BENTLEY advised that she would immediately sign the various papers dealing with her tax situation and see to it that they were in the hands of her New York attorney on 9/6/55. Miss BENTLEY stated that she thought that she had signed all such papers recently in New York but had just found some additional ones which she had overlooked and would sign them immediately.

Miss BENTLEY expressed her gratitude to the Bureau and to Mr. NICHOLS for his guidance.

CASPER

SFD:md  
134-40

Mr. Belmont

cc Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Donohue

RECORDED - 7

134-435-189

16 SEP 7 1955

Approved:

64 SEP 15 1955

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson ✓

FROM : L. B. Nichols *[initials]*

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH BENTLEY

DATE: September 2, 1955

*5/16*

Tolson	✓
Boardman	✓
Nichols	✓
Belmont	✓
Harbo	✓
Mohr	✓
Parsons	✓
Rosen	✓
Tamm	✓
Sizoo	✓
Winterrowd	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Holloman	✓
Gandy	✓

Robert Morris informed me on the afternoon of 9/2/55 that he had called T. Coleman Andrews, Commissioner of Internal Revenue, to inquire about the status of the income tax compromise worked out on behalf of Miss Bentley and the Internal Revenue Service. Andrews was very short to Morris and told him he did not know exactly where it stands at the present time; that, he, Andrews, had delegated the matter for handling and, if Morris wished to find out, he could check with those to whom Andrews had delegated responsibility for handling the matter. Morris stated that never in his life has he had such a brush off.

Morris subsequently informed me that he had been trying to get a hold of an Internal Revenue Agent named Hennessey who had been handling the matter. Hennessey told Morris the matter was awaiting an additional signature from Elizabeth Bentley. Morris then checked with Godfrey Schmidt, the attorney handling the matter for Bentley. Schmidt stated that after they had submitted a letter to Internal Revenue in the form suggested by Hennessey, that Internal Revenue had come back and requested that the matter be presented on a special form provided by Internal Revenue which accounts for the delay and that papers are now in the process of being signed by Elizabeth Bentley.

I informed Robert Minor of this development. Minor stated he was trying to get a hold of Assistant Commissioner Delk in line with the suggestion of David Kendall, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury. Minor stated that the manner in which Internal Revenue is handling this is one of the most disgusting things he knows. Minor is bearing down so that he can get this matter resolved and have the Assistant United States Attorney call on the Mother Superior at Sacred Heart Convent in order to insure Elizabeth Bentley getting her position.

LBN:gjm  
(4)

CC - Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Belmont

RECORDED-29

134-435-

1905

21 SEP 12 1955

71 SEP 20 1955

134-435

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson

FROM : L. B. Nichols

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH BENTLEY

DATE: 9/8/55

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Shortly 4:00 p.m., today, Bob Minor of the Department advised Mr. McGuire that he had just heard from Internal Revenue regarding Elizabeth Bentley's tax affairs and he was told that Internal Revenue was waiting for an offer from her people and that it was the only thing holding up final settlement. Minor stated it seemed that there was some problem about reaching her attorney.

Accordingly, Mr. McGuire called Judge Bob Morris at Point Pleasant, New Jersey, and upon advising him of Minor's remark, Morris stated he would get busy as he thought he knew what the situation was with regard to her attorney.

SAC Casper, at New Haven, has advised that Miss Bentley has left New Haven and is presently enroute by automobile to Louisiana where her position at the convent has been squared away with the Sister Superior.

Mr. Boardman  
cc - Mr. Belmont

JJM:fc  
(4)

RECORDED-95

134-435-191

SEP 13 1955

64 SEP 15 1955

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN:

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson ✓

FROM : L. B. Nichols

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH BENTLEY

DATE: 9/12/55

Tolson ✓  
 Boardman ✓  
 Nichols ✓  
 Belmont ✓  
 Tamm ✓  
 Parsons ✓  
 Rosen ✓  
 Tamm ✓  
 Sizoo ✓  
 Winterrowd ✓  
 Tele. Room ✓  
 Holloman ✓  
 Gandy ✓

Bob Minor of the Department told Mr. McGuire late Friday evening, 9/9/55, Internal Revenue had advised him that afternoon that Elizabeth Bentley's attorney was holding up any offer in compromise of her tax problems until Thursday, 9/15/55. Apparently, Bentley is not satisfied with the arrangements that had been made to date and the offer will be held up until she returns to New York City on Thursday.

cc - Mr. Boardman  
 Mr. Belmont

JJM:fc  
 (4)

EX-122  
 RECORDED - 63

134-435-193  
 SEP 15 1955

SEP 20 1955

(561)



EGD: 11/7/35 - Messenger - 5/42 - Special Agt.  
Resigned: 6/27/52. Ex-Interview reflected that  
Plant was resigning primarily in order to make  
more money in view of his increasing responsibilities.  
At the time of his resignation, Plant was a supervisor  
in the Espionage Unit of the Domestic Intelligence Div.  
Services satisfactory.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. John Edgar Hoover  
Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

For purposes of the record, I wish to advise you as to the details of a visit which I received from a Benjamin Ginzburg on Friday, September 16, 1955. Mr. Ginzburg identified himself as Research Director for the Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights, Senate Committee on the Judiciary, and called on me at my office with the Subcommittee on Welfare and Pension Funds, Room 764, HOLC Building, 101 Indiana Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

According to Mr. Ginzburg, the Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights in connection with its inquiries is extremely interested in Elizabeth Bentley and the allegations she has made to various agencies and groups. He claimed that many contradictions had appeared in charges as made by Miss Bentley at different times; that the entire loyalty and security program as operated in the Government today was initiated by her charges; and that if these charges were found to be false the entire program would be affected. He observed that "it is our understanding that you have considerable personal knowledge of Miss Bentley and her allegations." It is presumed that by "our" he referred to the subcommittee staff. He then "wondered" if I would agree to be interviewed by an attorney on their staff, a "Mr. Massey" (phonetic) who "is on loan to the subcommittee from the Library of Congress." Mr. Ginzburg went on to state in effect that "we have been thinking - and it is still only in the thinking stage - of the possibility of having the people upstairs agree to let you come over on loan for a month or so to help us in this particular phase of the work." At my request he identified "the people upstairs" as Senator Hennings, chairman of his subcommittee, and Senator Paul Douglas, chairman of the subcommittee for which I am now working.

Mr. Ginzburg was emphatically informed that any knowledge I might have concerning Elizabeth Bentley, other than what I had read in news accounts, would have come to me as an Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and not as an individual; that, therefore, I would consider my disclosure of any such information to unauthorized parties as being in violation of the oath I took upon becoming an Agent, as a possible violation of law, and as being entirely unethical. As an employee of the U. S. Senate, I told him I would like to cooperate with any committee of that body, but that in this instance I could not and would not. I stated that if he desired to contact the Bureau and secure authorization for me to give information to him or Mr. Massey, then I would help to the best of my limited ability.

Mr. Ginzburg said he appreciated "knowing how I felt," and my "speaking so frankly." He indicated he knew I had participated in the first interview with Miss Bentley but did not state how he became apprised of this information.

RECORDED - 75

INDEXED - 75

1955

EX-107

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Casper  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Sizoo  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

SEP 21 1955

134-435194

In commenting on Miss Bentley and the contradictions the claims appear in her charges, Ginzburg stated that she has related that she first came to the FBI in New Haven; that she related her story there; and that thereafter she was under surveillance at the time she met "Al" and received the "\$2,000." On the other hand, he added, "Mr. Hoover" has advised that she first came to the FBI in New York City in November 1945."

Mr. Ginzburg was not known to me prior to this visit. I do not know how he came to approach me, or what delusions he had that caused him to think I would consent to giving any information. In the event of further approaches to me in connection with this matter, they will be brought to the attention of the Bureau.

With all best wishes for continued success, I am,

Sincerely yours,

*Francis X. Plant*  
Francis X. Plant

134-435-194

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson *1/22/56*

FROM : L. B. Nichols *[Signature]*

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH BENTLEY

**DATE:** Sept. 22, 1955

37214

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Irving Ferman, the Washington representative of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), has advised me in confidence that he has determined that Ginzberg of the Hennings Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights has a maniacal fixation on Elizabeth Bentley and has arranged for a Dr. Mase, who is on the payroll of the Library of Congress, to devote his full time to studying the inconsistencies in the Elizabeth Bentley testimony in building up a case against her. Mase is Russian born, he is working secretly, according to Ferman, in Room 4-B of the Senate and is on the payroll of the Library of Congress. Marshall MacDuffie, strangely enough, is likewise very much concerned and feels that if the Committee launches an attack on Elizabeth Bentley that this will mean a ruination of the Committee. MacDuffie feels so strongly that he has gone to Senator O'Mahoney and complained. O'Mahoney, likewise, is disturbed and has stated to MacDuffie that if something is not worked out to put some checks on this Committee that he, O'Mahoney, will resign from the Committee. O'Mahoney contemplates making a strong protest to Senator Tom Hennings when he returns from Europe either this week end or early next week.

Ferman states he is becoming more and more concerned with Ginzberg and has recently learned that Joseph Freeman, a New York attorney, had recommended that Ginzberg come up and talk to the staff of the ACLU.

It seems to me that we ought to get a discreet line on Dr. Mase and call this to the attention of the Department because this certainly does seem to be a misuse of Government funds even though the Library of Congress is under the Legislative Branch rather than the Executive Branch.

cc - Mr. Boardman  
cc - Mr. Belmont

**LBN:ptm**  
**(4)**

EX-107

INDEXED - 75

✓ RECORDED

134-435-195

1955

27  
 15  
 memo  
 1/27/15  
 1/27/15  
 1/27/15

5. 12. 1941

Nichols  
Belmont  
Branigan  
Jensen

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (orig and one)

September 27, 1955

RECORDED

Director, FBI

134-435-195  
ELIZABETH BENTLEY  
SECURITY INFORMANT

EX-107

2/27/55

3721  
FEDERAL AGENCIES  
ADVISED BY SLIP(S) OF DISSEMINATION

DATE 3/1/55 EWR

I thought you would be interested in the following information which has been furnished to the Bureau

A confidential source who has an association with the American Civil Liberties Union advised that Benjamin Ginzburg, Research Director for the Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights, has a maniacal fixation on Elizabeth Bentley and has arranged for a Dr. Mase who is on the payroll of the Library of Congress to devote his full time to studying the inconsistencies in the various testimonies of Elizabeth Bentley in building a case against her.

In connection with the foregoing information Francis X. Plant, a former Special Agent of the Bureau, advised that on September 16, 1955, he was contacted by Benjamin Ginzburg. According to Plant, Ginzburg advised the Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights was interested in Bentley and the allegations she has made to various agencies in the past. Ginzburg claimed that many contradictions had appeared in Bentley's charges and that the entire loyalty and security program as operated in the Government today was initiated by her charges and that if these charges were found to be false the entire program would be affected. Ginzburg asked Plant whether he would consent to an interview by an attorney on the Subcommittee staff who is on loan to the Subcommittee from the Library of Congress. This attorney was identified as a Mr. Massey (phonetic).

FBI  
COMM - FBI  
SEP 28 1955  
MAILED 26

Former Special Agent Plant advised Ginzburg that any knowledge he had concerning Bentley other than that he had read in newspaper accounts he received as an Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and not as an individual and, therefore, Plant considered disclosure of such information to unauthorized persons in violation of the oath Plant had taken as an Agent, as a possible violation of the law and entirely unethical. Plant stated he told Mr. Ginzburg that as an employee of the United States Senate he would like to cooperate with any committee of that body but in this instance he could not and would not. For your additional information former Special Agent Plant was one of the Agents who were present at the time Bentley was interviewed

NOTE: Cover memo from Belmont to Boardman prepared 9-26-55 by RGJ:rmp in connection with the outgoing mail.

(10)

CONFIDENTIAL

37212

**LETTER TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL**

regarding her espionage activities in New York City on November 7, 1945. ~~I have advised former Special Agent Plant that his file went to Stinson, was a correct one.~~

Our files reflect the following information regarding a Sadi J. Mase, a Library of Congress employee, who appears identical with the Dr. Sadi Mase previously mentioned. [REDACTED] (b)(7)(C)

Sadi J. Mase was born in Moscow, Russia, on April 11, 1900, and entered the United States in May, 1938. This employee's file at the Library of Congress indicated that from 1925 to 1929 he was a member of the Russian Academy of Arts and Sciences in the Philosophical Department and was on the Dialectical Commission for the Russian Academy. From 1929 to 1932 Mase reportedly studied law in Germany and taught languages. [REDACTED]

Mase was Technical Advisor, Office of the U. S. Chief of Counsel for War Crimes, United States Army from August 19, 1945, until September 9, 1947. Our preliminary inquiry regarding Mase indicated [REDACTED] with his associates at Syracuse University in 1952 and 1953. (b)(7)(C)

One associate advised he heard Mase state, "Hiss was not guilty." Alexander Malkin who was associated with Mase at Syracuse University said Mase was opposed to including any material in the Russian program at Syracuse University which would furnish information about current conditions in Russia. Mase, according to Malkin, denied Soviet responsibility for the "Katyn Forest Massacre" during World War II.

A source who was in a position to furnish reliable information advised in January, 1954, that the name [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Hede Massing, a self-admitted former Communist Party member and Soviet espionage agent, advised in August, 1953. [REDACTED] (b)(7)(C)

[REDACTED] In 1953 and 1954 Sadi J. Mase lived at 635 Riverside Drive and had telephone number TO 2-9944.

In 1951 and 1952 Mase was connected with the Institute

37213

**LETTER TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL**

of Contemporary Russian Studies at Fordham University. Inquiry at Fordham University developed no information to indicate Base was considered disloyal to the United States.

134-435

cc - 1 - Mr. William P. Rogers  
Deputy Attorney General

cc - 1 - Assistant Attorney General  
William F. Tompkins

RECEIVED - WICHOR  
FEB 57 10 10 AM '57



Nichols  
Belmont  
Branigan  
Jensen

37210

September 27, 1955

4  
  
Mr. Francis X. Plant (original)  
3218 Ravensworth Place  
Alexandria, Virginia

Dear Mr. Plant:

I would like to take this opportunity to  
thank you for the information which you furnished in  
your letter of September 20, 1955.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

NOTE:

Cover memo from Belmont to Boardman prepared  
by RGJ:rmp on 9-26-55 in connection with the outgoing mail.

RGJ:rmp  
(7)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

✓  
  
COMM - FBI  
SEP 28 1955  
MAILED 30

134-435-196  
7 SEP 30 1955

PERS. FILES

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. L. V. BOARDMAN

DATE: Sept. 26, 1955

FROM : MR. A. H. BELMONT

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH BENTLEY  
SECURITY INFORMANT

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED  
OCT 1 1955

22 MAR 55

DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
F.B.I.

Mr. Nichols in his memorandum to Mr. Tolson 9-22-55 stated Irving Ferman, Washington representative of the American Civil Liberties Union, advised in confidence that Benjamin Ginzburg of the Hennings Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights has a fixation on Elizabeth Bentley and has arranged for a Dr. Mase who is on the payroll of the Library of Congress to devote his full time to studying inconsistencies in the testimony of Elizabeth Bentley. It was suggested we advise the Department of information available on Dr. Mase. The Director agreed.

In connection with Dr. Mase and Ginzburg, former SA Francis X Plant advised by letter dated 9-20-55 of a visit made to him by Ginzburg on 9-16-55. Ginzburg indicated to Plant that the Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights was interested in Bentley and the various allegations she has made. Ginzburg claimed many contradictions had appeared in Bentley's charges made at different times. Plant was asked if he could consent to an interview by a Mr. Massey (phonetic) who is on loan to the subcommittee from the Library of Congress as it was understood Plant had considerable personal knowledge of Bentley and her allegations. Ginzburg indicated the possibility existed, though only in the thinking stage as yet, that Plant might be loaned to the Subcommittee to help on this phase of the work. Ginzburg identified Senator Hennings of his subcommittee and Senator Paul Douglas of the subcommittee for which Plant works as those who would have to agree to this loan. Plant stated he emphatically advised Ginzburg that any knowledge he had regarding Bentley other than that seen in newspaper accounts he received as an agent of the FBI and not as an individual. Plant stated to Ginzburg disclosure of any such information would violate the oath he took as an agent, was a possible violation of the law and entirely unethical. Plant said he also told Ginzburg that as an employee of the US Senate he would like to cooperate with any committee of that body but in this instance could not and would not.

A search of Bureau files for data re Dr. Mase reflects one Sadi J. Mase, a Library of Congress employee is at present

62-10241-9992  
UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 140-9992

Enclosures

134-435

Belmont

Brannigan

Jensen

RGJ:rmp

RECORDED - 97

134-435

197

50 OCT 20 1955

(6)

Belmont

Brannigan

Jensen

EX-113

OCT 12 1955

E.J. McLaughlin

5-Jep

10/19/55 (26)

Memorandum Belmont to Boardman

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
It is known Sadi J. Mase lived at 635 Riverside Drive and had telephone number TO 2-9944 during 1953 and 1954. [REDACTED] (b)(7)(d)

[REDACTED] (b)(7)(c)  
Mase is Russian born and entered the United States in May, 1938. Information furnished by members of the teaching staff at Syracuse University where Mase was employed in 1952 and 1953 reflected Mase was reported to have said he was convinced "Hiss was not guilty." Mase was also reported by one individual as "way over on politics" giving the inference that Mase took a "left-wing" view of the political situation as opposed to a "right-wing" view. Inquiry at Fordham University where Mase was employed from 1951 to 1952 developed no information to indicate Mase was disloyal to the United States.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

(1) Attached letter of acknowledgement to former SA Francis X. Plant be approved and forwarded.

(2) Attached letter wherein data contained in this memorandum is incorporated be approved and forwarded to the Attorney General, Deputy Attorney General Rogers, and Assistant Attorney General Tompkins be approved and forwarded.

Memorandum

UNITED STATES

GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson

DATE: October 11, 1955

FROM : L. E. Nichols

FROM :

SUBJECT :

SENATE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS

Irving Ferman confidentially informed me that Marshall MacDuffie has submitted his resignation to Senator Hennings. He has attached to his resignation a strong statement in opposition to the activities of Ben Ginzberg with reference to investigating Elizabeth Bentley. Hennings has told MacDuffie that there will be no investigation of Elizabeth Bentley, and Dr. Mass of the Library of Congress, who was doing some work on the Bentley case, is now off the Committee payroll. Hennings is holding up MacDuffie's resignation, however, MacDuffie is insisting that he will go through with it.

LBN:gim

(4)

cc: Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Belmont

134-435-V

NOT RECORDED

13 OCT. 20 1955

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION. OCTOBER 12, 1955

AIRTEL

5147

Transmit the following message to: SAC, NEW ORLEANS (134-85)

~~SECRET~~

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY  
CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE

cc - Boardman  
Belmont  
Branigan  
Jensen

[REDACTED]

(S)

Classified by 6428 2/27/78 HOOVER  
Exempt from GDS Category 2

NOTE: Date of Declassification Indefinite

A cover memo from Belmont to Boardman was prepared by RGJ:rmp on 10/12/55 in connection with the outgoing mail.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) Classification  
DATE 3/1/78 EMH

- Tolson
- Boardman
- Nichols
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Parsons
- Nease
- Tamm
- Winterrowd
- Tele. Room
- Holloman
- Gandy

Bufile 134-435

RGJ:rmp:emo  
(7)

EX-118

RECORDED - 43

134-435 1985

8 OCT 20 1955

SENT VIA

MAILED 6  
OCT 12 1955  
COMM-FBI

~~SECRET~~

21 OCT 18 1955